

Elaborate The structural organs of United Nations. Also discuss the reforms required in UN structure.

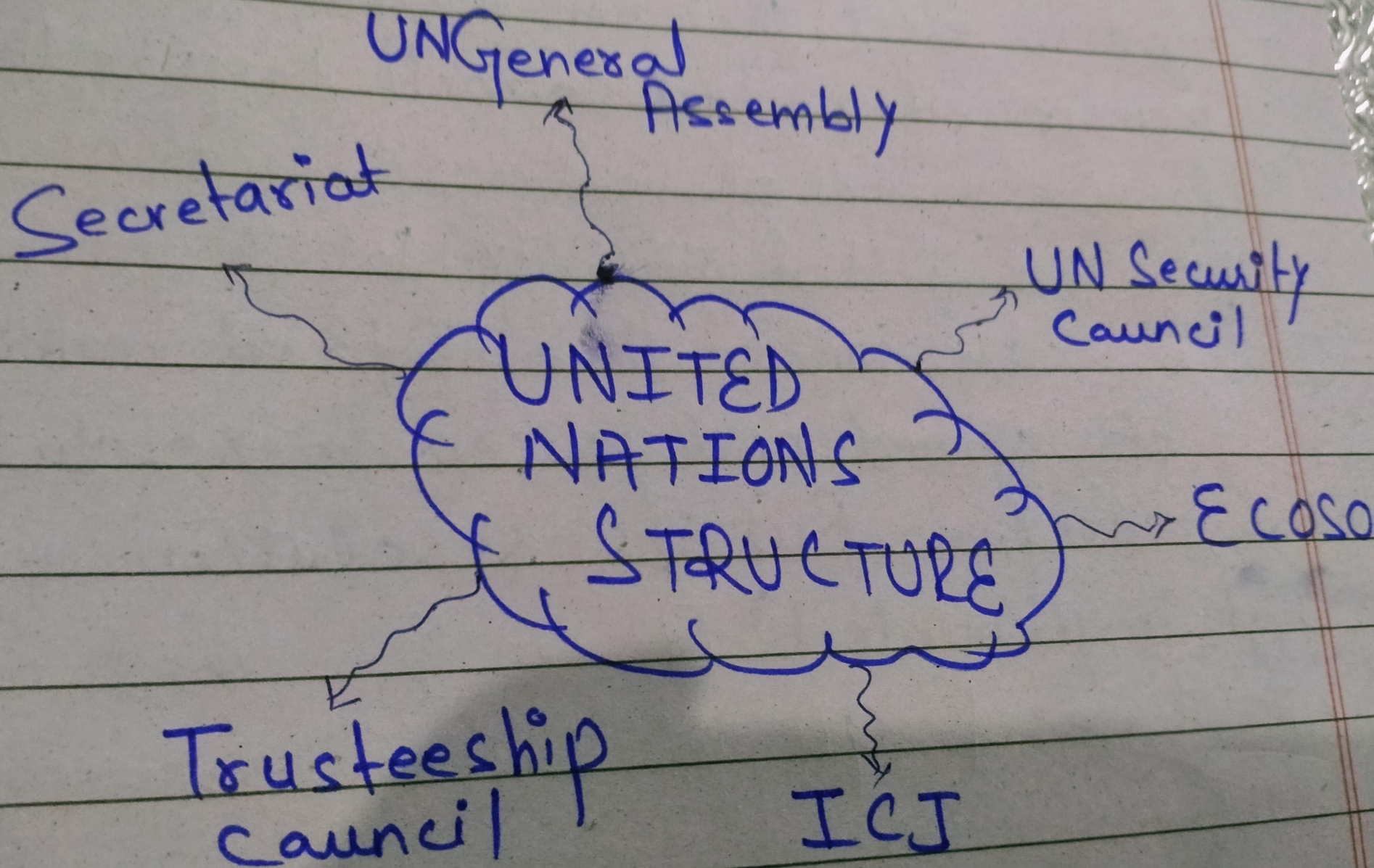
Introduction:

United Nations (UN) is a global peace making institution, established at the end of World War II on 24 October, 1945. It was mainly established to promote peace around the globe, promote human rights and mutual respect among the Nations. 193 countries are official members of United Nations while two **observer states**; Palestine and Vatican City are unofficial members of UN. United Nations stands on six main pillars including General Assembly, Security Council, International Court of Justice, Trusteeship Council, Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and Secretariat. UN has played its role in key global issues since 1945. However, in current times, it is unable to cope with various issues such as Palestine-Israel conflict, Kashmir issue and many more. So, it is high time to introduce essential

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reforms in structure of United Nations,
which are briefly discussed as follows



Organs of United Nations:

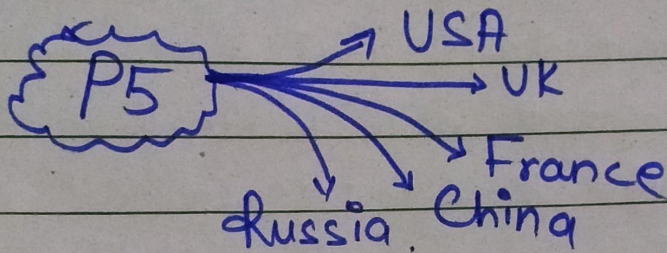
United Nations is builded up as a democratic state, which owns a legislative, executive and judiciary bodies. Each of them is discussed below as follows:-

1- UN General Assembly:

The General Assembly of United Nations is a legislative body. It has 193 member states, each of which has a permanent representative ~~called~~ and deputy permanent representative. The objective of General Assembly is to approve the budget of UN, to recommend the solutions of international affairs and to elect the non-permanent members of United Council. Despite the largest number of members, General Assembly has limited authority of legislation. 'In 2024, more than 2/3rd members of GA agreed and passed a resolution of ceasefire. But its resolution was not implemented.' It clarifies the position of GA in United Nations.

2- UN Security Council:

United Nations Security Council (UNSC) serves as an executive body and is the most potential organ of UN. It basically aims to resolve global conflicts and promote peace. It basically comprises of ten members only. Among them, five members are permanent members known as P5. They hold the right of veto. P5 countries are as follows.



Other five members are non-permanent and elected by General Assembly. The potential of Security Council is evident as the cease fire resolution among Israel-Palestine passed by General Assembly, when sent to UNSC, was rejected by USA through veto power. So, UNSC is the organ of United Nations with unbounded authority.

3- International Court of Justice (ICJ)

ICJ serves as Judicial organ of UN. Its headquarter is present in Netherlands. Its objective is to resolve legal disputes between the states, ^{provide} advisory opinions and settle boundary disputes.

In the terms of legal disputes resolution, ICJ played key role in 1980 to end USA-Iran embassy crisis, where 50+ diplomats of US embassy were hijacked in Iran for 400+ days. ICJ declared it illegal in accord. with international law and settled Iran to release hostages.

Similarly, ICJ recommended and enforced advisory opinion on Israel's illegal wall construction in West Bank, back in 2003.

ICJ also settled the boundary dispute among various countries including Mali and Burkina Faso, two African states. So, ICJ has continued to play its role in its boundaries since its creation.

4- ECOSOC:

Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is another major organ of United

Nations. It has 54 member states. As its name illustrates, it works for economic and social development across the globe. Its projects and aims including Sustainable development Goals (SDGs), human rights, women rights and many more. It also look after various key bodies of United Nations including UNICEF, UNESCO and WHO.

5- Trusteeship Council:

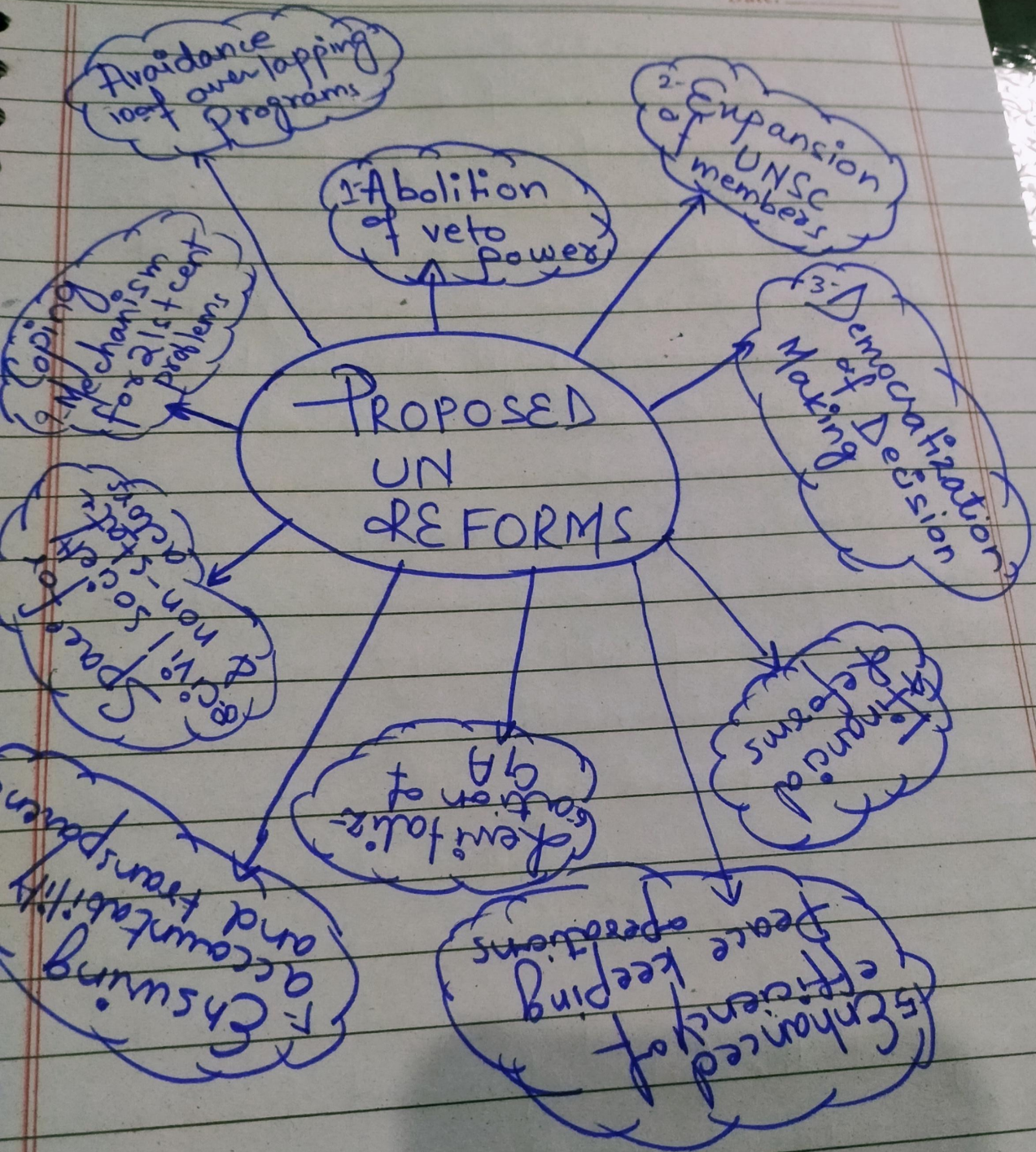
It was established after World War II to look after trust territories. Trust territories are residual areas of captured states, which have no independent government. Trusteeship council's job was to assign them to suitable states and look after them time to time. However, all these trust territories got independence with passage of time. Last trust territory, Palao, also got independence in 1994. So, trusteeship council is inactive since 1994.

6- Secretariat

It is sixth major organ of United Nations and serves as **executive body**. Its head quarter is present in New York. The head of Secretariat is known as **Secretariat General**. Currently, **António Guterres** is serving as Secretary General since 2017. Thousands of people work in Secretariat to cope up with file work and execution of upper UN bodies decisions. It also conducts **researches** on various matters and bring important matters in sight of UN Security Council. It is actively serving United Nations by all possible means.

PROPOSAL OF ESSENTIAL UN REFORMS:

United Nation stands on strong pillars of executive, legislative, judicial and supporting bodies. It has played key role in regulating global crisis and promoting peace since 1945. However, in the long run, it is unable to solve major global conflicts including Israel-



Palestine conflict, Kashmir issue and many more. The reason of this ineffectiveness lies in number of challenges faced by UN bodies. These challenges can only be resolved by necessary reforms in UN structure to restore its vitality. The below discussion highlights the key challenges as ^{well} as required reforms in UN framework:

1- Abolition of veto power:

Vetopower is a controversial right of P5 countries of UN Security Council. It allows them to nullify any decision or resolution passed by other 190+ countries. The use of veto by United States in Israel-Palestine ceasefire resolution is the clear example of misuse of vetopower. So to bring out the fate of world from hands of few superpowers, the right of veto power should be abolished at immediate basis and democratization of decisions should be encouraged in United Nations.

Expansion of UNSC members:

UN Security Council is the most potential decision making organ of UN. Unfortunately,

It comprises of only ten members, among which five are permanent and other five are non-permanent members. This contracted number of members lead to the fate of globe in few hands causing misuse of power and lack of democratization. So, the number of permanent as well as non-permanent members should be extended unbiasedly to ensure transparency. The various groups including G4, coffee club and African Union have presented their proposals for reforms based on their own interests. The decision should be made by key bodies to preserve collective global interest instead of favoring any single group.

3- Democratization of Decision Making:

The decision making in United Nations is confined to only ten members of UNSC causing lack of democratization and enhanced reliance on personal will. To overcome this deficiency, the UN bodies with greater number of members such as General Assembly with 193 countries and ECOSOC with 54 countries are urged to participate

in decision making process. It will lead to democratized decision making instead of will based decisions.

4- Financial Reforms in UN:

The major part of UN finances relies on superpowers especially USA. It directly affects the transparency of UN objectives and decisions. So, instead of depending on few major countries, the finances of UN can be fulfilled by getting fixed amount of funds from all member countries.

The amount can be decided on the basis of economic circumstances of countries. But countries with better economy and enhanced finances should not be allowed to overshadow the transparency of UN objectives.

5- Enhancing the effectiveness of peace keeping operations:

UN owns a military wing known as 'peace keeping missions' which possesses troops from all member states. These missions are sent at conflict sites to resolve the conflict forcefully, when mediation talks fail. But, these missions

often fails to achieve their targets due to lack of necessary training and equipments. Sometimes, UN itself obeys Chapter 6 of UN charter to make peace by mediation instead of deploying military for peace as per Chapter 7 as in the case of Kashmir and Palestine. These issues require military intervention but UN keeps focusing on mediation leading to ineffectiveness of peace keeping operations. So, first and foremost, UN should overcome its decision making weakness as per UN charter. Secondly, peace keeping operations can be made effective by essential training of troops.

3- Revitalization of UN General Assembly:

UN General Assembly is the organ with largest member states, but still has no impact on decision making as discussed above. So, it should be revitalized to solve global conflicts by mutual consents of all the countries.

Ensurance of Accountability and Transparency:

United Nation missions have been widely accused of corruption and sexual violence especially in African countries. A report of 2024 claims the sexual violence of 700+ victims by UN members among which 150+ are verified victims. Victims includes both adults and children. Same is the case with the corruption of missions as per UN CPC. The accountability is the only reform required to overcome this deficiency. The continuous and effective accountability can lead to transparency.

8- Space building for civil society and non-state actors:

United Nation has served as state-centric institute since its creation. Civil society and non-state actors have never gotten accreditation in UN. It leads to the lack of UN's ^{relation} with internal fabric of globe. So to enhance the vision and broaden the curriculum of UN, acknowledged space should be built for civil society and non-state actors around the globe.

9- Coping Mechanism with 21st century problems:

The century of advanced technology has emerged with advanced problems including cyber crimes and environmental crisis. The explosion of pagers in Lebanon and enhanced global warming followed by variations in climate patterns has lead to serious cyber and environmental threats across the globe. UN is expected to build effective forums that raises awareness in masses and practical steps like strong cyber security system, Aforestation and reforestation to get rid of these crisis.

10. Avoidance of overlapping programs.

The number of programs with similar objectives are ^{mostly} arranged by supporting bodies of UN. It causes financial strain and lack of space for effective programs for UN. It can be avoided by effective planning and funding in essential projects of reinvesting in unnecessary and drained projects.

Conclusion:

United Nations has served as global key regulatory institute since 1945. It is based on General Assembly, UN Security Council, ICJ, Secretariat, ECOSOC and Trusteeship Council. These organs have specific compositions and sets of objectives. But, UN along with its organs, has failed to cope with numerous current crisis such as Kashmir conflict, Palestine-Israel crisis, cyber crimes and many more. It is evident that UN requires immediate reforms to revitalize its role in contemporary world. The UN structural framework can be revived by democratization of decision making through abolition of veto power, expansion of Permanent and non-permanent members of UNSC. It also requires revitalization of General Assembly and peace keeping missions. The financial reforms are another key players with enhanced accountability and avoidance of overlapping programs. The space build up for civil society and non-state actors with efficient coping mechanism

of 21st century problems can serve as game changers. To conclude, the whole fabric of UN can be revived by implementing essential reforms in executive, legislative, and supporting bodies of United Nations.