

# INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

**STUDY MATERIAL**  
**B.A. POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**VI SEMESTER**

**CORE COURSE (ELECTIVE)**  
**(2011 ADMISSION)**



**UNIVERSITY OF CALICUT**

**SCHOOL OF DISTANCE EDUCATION**

THENJIPALAM, CALICUT UNIVERSITY P.O., MALAPPURAM, KERALA - 693 635

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**ELECTIVE COURSE-II**  
**INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION**

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- b, League of Nations: structures and achievements; failure of League of Nations

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United Nations Organization: Purposes and principles. Structure and functions of Principal Organs, Changing role of Secretary General, A brief analysis of specialised agencies

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## **Module-1**

(A) Evolution of International Organization

(B) League of Nations: structures and achievements; failure of league of nations

### **Evolution of International Organizations**

The history of international organizations can be traced back to ancient periods. The interactions of ancient Sumerian city-states, in 3,500 BC, can be considered as the first fully-fledged international system. The Greek city states and ancient Rome maintained interstate organizations and leagues. These organizations were not well defined and largely loosely connected. Many of these leagues were temporary in nature and limited in operations.

The signing of the Peace of Westphalia in 1648, reinforced by the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713, established the principle of national sovereignty and the practice of international relations in modern times. It placed the states of Europe on equal legal footing. This notion of sovereign equality - endowing each state with territorial integrity and the right to conduct domestic and foreign affairs without outside intervention - represents the first real ordering principle among states. After Westphalia, decentralized control by sovereign states provided the basis for a horizontal international order critical to the later development of international organization. However, it was not until the nineteenth century that actual international organizations began to appear in significant numbers. Though the advent of states as sovereign political units was an important step, preconditions for the creation of international organizations were not met during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. For example, there was insufficient contact between states, little recognition of problems arising from interdependence among states, and no perceived need for institutionalized mechanisms to manage international relations.

The first serious attempt at formal international organization arose with the Congress of Vienna (1814-1815), which established diplomatic foundations for a new European security order following the devastation of the Napoleonic Wars. It created a more systematic and institutionalized approach to managing issues of war and peace in the international system. The principal innovation at Vienna was that representatives of states should meet at regular intervals - not just in the wake of war - to discuss diplomatic issues. Accordingly, four major peacetime conferences were held between 1815 and 1822. After this period, the aspirations of the Congress system gave way to a more informal regime. This 'Concert of Europe' featured periodic gatherings throughout the century, mostly in response to wars: Paris in 1856, Vienna in 1864, Prague in 1866, Frankfurt in 1871, Berlin in 1878, Berlin in 1884-1885, and The Hague in 1899 and 1907. These last two conferences established panels of arbitrators to settle international disputes and produced a Convention for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes. These are the earliest examples of formal International Organizations designed to manage security issues.

The result of the Concert was a long period of relatively peaceful interstate relations among the great powers of Europe. The technological changes brought on by the Industrial Revolution - especially in communication and transportation created interdependence among states that required more stable forms of cooperation. A new set of International Organizations was created to manage international economic transactions. To facilitate shipping and international trade and to regulate traffic, Navigation commissions and customs unions were established in various regions of Europe. These organizations were assigned specialized functions and founded the principles of international cooperation.

A set of Public International Unions, was also a response to technological change. These were concerned primarily with nonpolitical, technical matters. The major public international unions in the earlier period include;

- 1, The International Telegraphic Union (1865),
- 2, The Universal Postal Union (1874),
- 3, The International Union of Railway Freight Transportation (1890) and
- 4, The International Bureau of Weights and Measures (1875).

Some of these organizations had elaborate institutional frameworks, including permanent bureaus. The ultimate purpose of these organizations was to facilitate international trade by establishing market rules and standardization. The improved technology that increased the need for coordination among states also made communicating and convening easier, thus facilitating the process of organization.

### **Peace of Westphalia**

In modern periods the history of international relations based on sovereign states is often traced back to the Peace of Westphalia of 1648. It was a stepping stone in the development of the modern state system. The Peace of Westphalia was a series of peace treaties signed in 1648 in Osnabruck and Munster. These treaties ended the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648) in the Holy Roman Empire, and the Eighty Years' War (1568–1648) between Spain and the Dutch Republic, with Spain formally recognizing the independence of the Dutch Republic. The Peace of Westphalia treaties involved the Holy Roman Emperor, the Kingdom of Spain, the Kingdom of France, the Swedish Empire, the Dutch Republic and sovereigns of the free imperial cities. The treaties did not restore the peace throughout Europe. Even after the peace treaties France and Spain remained at war for the next eleven years. But the peace of Westphalia created a basis for national self-determination.

The forerunner of the League of Nations was the Inter-Parliamentary Union. It was formed by peace activists William Randal Cremer and Frederic Passy in 1889. The organization was international in scope, with a third of the members of parliaments serving as members of the Inter-Parliamentary Union. Its aims were to encourage governments to solve international disputes by peaceful means. Annual conferences were held to help governments to refine the process of international arbitration. Its structure consisted of a council headed by a president, which was later reflected in the structure of the League.

## **Evolution of League of Nations**

League of Nations can be considered as the first full-fledged international organization with a permanent structure and large scale participation. The origin of the league is connected with the First World War. The war started in 1914, and drew all the major European powers into the conflict. This was the first major war in Europe between industrialised countries, and the first time in Western Europe that the results of industrialisation had been dedicated to war. The result of this industrialised warfare was an unprecedented number of human casualties. It was estimated that eight and a half million soldiers were killed in the war. There were 21 million wounded soldiers. The war also resulted in unprecedented civilian deaths numbering to over 10 million. By the time the fighting ended in November 1918, the war had a profound impact, affecting the social, political and economic systems of Europe and inflicting psychological and physical damage to states and citizens. Anti-war sentiments rose across the world. People and states were seriously debating the ways to avert war as they found that a war can wipe out humanity itself. In fact the First World War was fought with slogan; "the war to end all wars". World leaders identified arms race, secret diplomacy and unchecked sovereign claims as the root cause of the First World War. These issues can be addressed only with a strong international monitoring system. They envisaged the establishment of an international organization whose aim was to prevent future war through disarmament, open diplomacy, international co-operation, restrictions on the right to wage war, and penalties that made war less promising.

The attempts to restructure the traditional mode of international relations started during the course of the First World War itself. At the end of the First World War The Paris Peace Conference was organized to discuss the ways and means to build lasting peace. It took place in Paris during 1919 and involved diplomats from more than 32 countries and nationalities. This conference approved the proposal to create the League of Nations.

### **Woodrow Wilson and Fourteen Points**

Woodrow Wilson, the then president of United States of America was the leading figure in the debate on the new mode of international relations. Woodrow Wilson enthusiastically promoted the idea of the League as a means of avoiding any repetition of the bloodshed of the First World War. In fact the creation of the League was a centerpiece of Wilson's Fourteen Points for Peace declared in 1918. In his fourteen points Wilson argued for "Open covenants of peace, openly arrived at, after which there shall be no private international understandings of any kind but diplomacy shall proceed always frankly and in the public view". He also argued for freedom of the seas and free international trade. The final point clearly stated the need for an international organization that guarantees national security and global peace. It reads: "A general association of nations must be formed under specific covenants for the purpose of affording mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small states alike." Woodrow Wilson wanted the League to be a kind of 'world parliament', where nations would sort out their disagreements and debate issues of common interest. He hoped that the organization would work to stop wars and strive to better human life all over the world.

The draft convention of the League of Nations was prepared even before the end of the First World War. In March 1918, the Lord Phillimore committee produced a draft convention and the same was well appreciated by global community. At the same time General Smuts of South Africa published a monograph titled 'The League of nations- a practical suggestion. On the basis of these two documents Woodrow Wilson prepared a clear design for the new international organization. During the preliminary meeting of the peace conference in 1919, Lloyd George moved a proposal for the creation of League of Nations. He argued for the league in order to promote international cooperation and to safeguard the world against the threats of war. The conference accepted the proposal and appointed a committee of states work out the constitution of the new organization. Sir Cesil Hurst and David Hunter Miller prepared a draft and the same was accepted as the Covenant of League of Nations. Thus the League was established by Part I of the Treaty of Versailles On 28 June 1919. The covenant was signed by 42 states. The League held its first council meeting in Paris on 16 January 1920. In November, the headquarters of the League was moved to Geneva, where the first General Assembly was held on 15 November 1920. The official languages of the League of Nations were French, English and Spanish. The funds for the organization were collected from the member nations.

The League of was an intergovernmental organization founded as a result of the Paris Peace Conference that ended the First World War. It was the first international organization whose principal mission was to maintain world peace. Its primary goals included preventing wars through collective security and disarmament, and settling international disputes through negotiation and arbitration. At its greatest extent from 1934 to 1935, it had 58 members.

The diplomatic philosophy behind the League represented a fundamental shift from the earlier periods. It contained provisions of joint action and collective security. The organization offered a global platform for the states of the world. However The League lacked its own armed force and depended on the Great Powers to enforce its resolutions, keep to its economic sanctions, or provide an army when needed. However, the Great Powers were often reluctant to do so. Sanctions could hurt League members, so they were reluctant to comply with them.

After a number of notable successes and some early failures in the 1920s, the League ultimately proved incapable of preventing aggression by the Axis powers in the 1930s. Germany withdrew from the League. The German example was followed Japan, Italy, Spain and others. The onset of World War II showed that the League had failed its primary purpose, which was to prevent any future world war. The League lasted for 27 years. The United Nations Organization replaced it after the end of the war and inherited a number of agencies and organizations founded by the League



## **League of Nations: Structure and Agencies**

The main constitutional organs of the League were ;

- 1, The Assembly,
- 2, The Council, and
- 3, The Permanent Secretariat.

The League structure also included many international agencies including the Permanent Court of International Justice, the Disarmament Commission, the Health Organization, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Mandates Commission, the International Commission on Intellectual Cooperation, the Permanent Central Opium Board, the Commission for Refugees, and the Slavery Commission. Several of these institutions were transferred to the United Nations after the Second World War. This include the International Labour Organization, the Permanent Court of International Justice (later named as the International Court of Justice), and the Health Organization (restructured as the World Health Organization).

Unanimity was required for the decisions of both the Assembly and the Council, except in matters of procedure and some other specific cases, such as the admission of new members. This requirement was a reflection of the League's belief in the sovereignty of its component nations; the League sought solution by consent, not by dictation. However, in case of a dispute, the consent of the parties to the dispute was not required for unanimity.

### **The Assembly**

The Assembly consisted of representatives of all members of the League, with each state allowed up to three representatives. However each state was entitled for one vote only. The assembly met in Geneva once a year. It elected its own president and made its rules of procedure. In practice, the Assembly was the general directing force of League activities. It acted as a world parliament and adopted parliamentary procedures. As such it worked through committees. There were six committees to the assembly.

The assembly carried out three kinds of functions.

- 1, Electoral functions
- 2, Constituent functions and
- 3, Deliberative functions

The electoral functions of the Assembly included the admission of new members, the periodical election of non-permanent members to the Council and the election with the Council of the judges of the Permanent Court. The cooperation of the council and assembly was necessary for the nomination of additional permanent members. Even though the council appoints the Secretary General of the League, the approval of assembly is required for the ratification. The assembly can move amendments to the covenant of the league with the majority of the members. These amendments are to be ratified by the council. Deliberative functions is an important power of the assembly. It can deliberate on matters concerned with international peace and security. It supervise the working of technical committees. It revises the budget prepared by the secretariat.

## **The League Council**

The League Council acted as the executive body of the organization. Initially there were four permanent members and four non-permanent members in the council. The permanent members were Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan. The non-permanent members were elected by the Assembly for a three-year term. The composition of the Council was changed a number of times. The number of non-permanent members was first increased to six in 1922, and then to nine in 1926. . Later, after Germany and Japan both left the League, the number of non-permanent seats was increased from nine to eleven, and the Soviet Union was made a permanent member giving the Council a total of fifteen members. The Council met, on average, five times a. During 1920 to 1939 the council conducted a total of 107 sessions.

Each member of the council enjoyed one vote. The presidency of the council changed in each session. It met whenever occasion demanded. The council enjoyed wide powers to deal with any matters affecting world peace.. It enjoyed the power to deal with plans for reduction of arms. The council can institute enquiry in matters of dispute between member states. In case of aggression by any state the council can recommend the use of force to settle the disputes. With regard to the mandated areas council can define scope of authority to be used by mandatory powers.

## **The Permanent Secretariat**

The Permanent Secretariat, established at Geneva, comprised a body of experts in various spheres under the direction of the Secretary General. The secretary General is appointed by the council with the approval of the assembly. All appointments in the secretariat is made by the secretary General with the approval of the council. The principal sections of the secretariat were: Political, Financial and Economics, Transit, Minorities and Administration, Mandates, Disarmament, Health, Social, Intellectual Cooperation and International Bureaux, Legal, and Information. The staff of the Secretariat was responsible for preparing the agenda for the Council and the Assembly and publishing reports of the meetings and other routine matters. They effectively acted as the civil service of the league.

## **The Permanent Court of International Justice**

The league covenant by article 41 provided for the establishment of a Permanent Court of International Justice. The Council and the Assembly established the constitution of the court. Its judges were elected by the Council and the Assembly, and its budget was provided by the latter. The Court was to hear and decide any international dispute which the parties concerned submitted to it. It might also give an advisory opinion on any dispute or question referred to it by the Council or the Assembly. The Court was open to all the nations of the world under certain conditions. The court consisted of 11 judges and 4 deputy judges elected by the assembly in conjunction with the council. The court came into being in 1922. The judges enjoyed a nine year term.

## **The International Labour Organization**

The International Labour Organization was created in 1919 on the basis of the Treaty of Versailles. The ILO, although having the same members as the League and being subject to the budget control of the Assembly, was an autonomous organization with its own Governing Body, its own General Conference and its own Secretariat. The ILO successfully engaged in many labour issues. It convinced several countries to adopt an eight-hour work day and forty-eight-hour working week. It also campaigned to end child labour, increase the rights of women in the workplace, and make ship-owners liable for accidents involving seamen. After the end of League of Nations, the ILO became an agency of the United Nations in 1946.

The Slavery Commission was another major specialized agency of the league. It sought to eradicate slavery and slave trading across the world, and fought against the evil of forced prostitution. By the intervention of the commission slavery was abolished in mandated countries. The League secured a commitment from Ethiopia to end slavery as a condition of membership in 1926, and worked with Liberia to abolish forced labour and inter-tribal slavery. The commission also maintained records to control slavery, prostitution, and the trafficking of women and children.

The League of Nations also established a Commission for Refugees to look after the interests of refugees, including overseeing their repatriation and resettlement. At the end of the First World War, there were two to three million ex-prisoners of war from various nations dispersed throughout Russia. The Commission for Refugees helped majority of them to return home and settle. The commission also established the Nansen passport as a means of identification for stateless people.

The Committee for the Study of the Legal Status of Women was another agency of the league which dealt with the issues of women. It sought to inquire into the status of women all over the world. It was formed in 1937, and later became part of the United Nations as the Commission on the Status of Women.

## **Mandate System under League of Nations**

Article 22 of the covenant of the League of Nations provides for a mandate system. It was designed for the administration of freed colonies all over the world. At the end of the First World War, the Allied powers were seriously confronted with the question of the disposal of the former German colonies in Africa and the Pacific, and the several non-Turkish provinces of the Ottoman Empire. The Paris Peace Conference adopted the principle that these territories should be administered by different governments on behalf of the League. This was a system of national responsibility subject to international supervision. This plan is called mandate system. The Permanent Mandates Commission of the league supervised mandate system.

The mandate territories were classified into three groups; A, B and C. The A mandates (applied to parts of the old Ottoman Empire) were communities that had reached a stage of development where their existence as independent nations can be provisionally recognized subject to the rendering of administrative advice and assistance by a Mandatory until they are able to stand alone. The wishes of these communities must be a principal consideration in the selection of the Mandatory. The B mandates were applied to the former German colonies that the League took responsibility for after the First World War. These were described as "peoples" that the League said were...at such a stage that the Mandatory must be responsible for the administration of the territory under conditions which will guarantee freedom of conscience and religion. South-West Africa and certain of the South Pacific Islands were administered by League members under C mandates. These were classified as "territories"...which, owing to the sparseness of their population, or their small size, or their remoteness from the centres of civilization, or their geographical contiguity to the territory of the Mandatory, and other circumstances, can be best administered under the laws of the Mandatory as integral portions of its territory.

### **Mandatory powers**

The territories were governed by mandatory powers, such as the United Kingdom in the case of the Mandate of Palestine, and the Union of South Africa in the case of South-West Africa, until the territories were deemed capable of self-government. Fourteen mandate territories were divided up among seven mandatory powers: the United Kingdom, the Union of South Africa, France, Belgium, New Zealand, Australia and Japan. With the exception of the Kingdom of Iraq, which joined the League in 1932, these territories did not begin to gain their independence until after the Second World War. Following the demise of the League, most of the remaining mandates became United Nations Trust Territories.

### **Achievements of the League of Nations**

The League of Nations, failed to meet its objectives. It failed to avert war and control member states. However it had been a profoundly innovative, indeed radical, departure in international relations. This was a reality which only came to be properly acknowledged at the end of the century of the League's creation. The major achievements of League can be discussed under the following headings;

#### **1,New Model of International relations**

For succeeding decades after its disappearance the League continued to be regarded in the popular memory as a by-word for empty rhetoric and diplomatic hypocrisy. Despite this, it eventually provided the model for almost all of the major inter-governmental organizations. The League's basic organization, consisting of an 'executive' Council of the big powers and a 'parliamentary' Assembly of all its country members, both managed by an international civil service, was in essence a bold adoption

of national constitutional arrangements to the international environment. The League had set out a truly novel manifesto for a new international politics. The aftermath of the First World War left many issues to be settled, including the exact position of national boundaries and which country particular regions would join. Most of these questions were handled by the victorious Allied powers in bodies such as the Allied Supreme Council. The Allies tended to refer only particularly difficult matters to the League. This meant that, during the early interwar period, the League played little part in resolving the turmoil resulting from the war. The questions the League considered in its early years included those designated by the Paris Peace treaties. As the League developed, its role expanded, and by the middle of the 1920s it had become the centre of international activity. This change can be seen in the relationship between the League and non-members. The United States and Russia, for example, increasingly worked with the League. During the second half of the 1920s, France, Britain and Germany were all using the League of Nations as the focus of their diplomatic activity, and each of their foreign secretaries attended League meetings at Geneva during this period. They also used the League's machinery to try to improve relations and settle their differences.

## **2,Collective Security and International Order**

The purposes of the League, were also novel. Responsibility for the security and defense of all member countries was, as far as possible, to be removed from those countries themselves. The fears and insecurities which had generated the arms races and aggressive alliances that evidently lay at the root of the catastrophe of 1914–18 .National security and therefore international security would now, thus become the collective responsibility of the world community working through the structures of its new global organization. Again, this new ‘multilateralism’ was bold and somehow obvious, and the basic idea outlived the League itself. It was later taken over by the United Nations Organization.

## **3,Mandate System and Colonialism:**

The League also brought a new moral sensibility to the question of colonialism when, instead of the colonies of the defeated powers in 1918 simply being transferred to the victors, they were made the responsibility of the League which ‘mandated’ their administration and responsibility for their self-determination to appropriate member states.

## **4,Disarmament under league**

Disarmament is another major where the League established itself. Article 8 of the Covenant gave the League the task of reducing "armaments to the lowest point consistent with national safety and the enforcement by common action of international obligations." A significant amount of the League's time and energy was devoted to this goal, even though many member governments were uncertain that such extensive disarmament could be

achieved or was even desirable. The Allied powers were also under obligation by the Treaty of Versailles to attempt to disarm, and the armament restrictions imposed on the defeated countries had been described as the first step toward worldwide disarmament. The League Covenant assigned League the task of creating a disarmament plan for each state, but the Council devolved this responsibility to a special commission set up in 1926 to prepare for the 1932–34 World Disarmament Conference. Members of the League held different views towards the issue. The French were reluctant to reduce their armaments without a guarantee of military help if they were attacked; Poland and Czechoslovakia felt vulnerable to attack from the west and wanted the League's response to aggression against its members to be strengthened before they disarmed. Without this guarantee, they would not reduce armaments because they felt the risk of attack from Germany was too great. Fear of attack increased as Germany regained its strength after the First World War, especially after Adolf Hitler gained power and became German Chancellor in 1933. In particular, Germany's attempts to overturn the Treaty of Versailles and the reconstruction of the German military made France increasingly unwilling to disarm.

The World Disarmament Conference was convened by the League of Nations in Geneva in 1932, with representatives from 60 states. A one-year moratorium on the expansion of armaments was proposed at the start of the conference. The Disarmament Commission obtained initial agreement from France, Italy, Japan, and Britain to limit the size of their navies. The Kellogg–Briand Pact, facilitated by the commission in 1928, failed in its objective of outlawing war. Ultimately, the Commission failed to halt the military build-up by Germany, Italy and Japan during the 1930s. The League was mostly silent in the face of major events leading to the Second World War, such as Hitler's re-militarization of the Rhineland, occupation of the Sudetenland and Anschluss of Austria. In fact, League members themselves re-armed.

### **Failure of League of Nations**

The League system failed to meet its objectives. This failure resulted from inadequacies in the structure and working of the organization. The major reasons are;

#### **1, Absence of Global representation**

Representation at the League was often a problem. Though it was intended to encompass all nations, many never joined, or their time as part of the League was short. The most conspicuous absence was the United States. Actually USA which was the most powerful country in the world at that time never joined the League. This was a heavy blow to the system. The League of Nations itself was a brain child of American president Woodrow Wilson. But the American Congress was not in favour of US intervention in global politics and they rejected Wilson's proposal to join league. The US refusal cost the League a lot in terms of power and stability.



In January 1920, when the League was born, Germany was not permitted to join because it was seen as the aggressor in the First World War. Soviet Russia was also initially excluded, as communist views were not welcomed by the victors of the war. The League was further weakened when major powers left in the 1930s. Japan began as a permanent member of the Council, but withdrew in 1933 after the League voiced opposition to its invasion of Manchuria. Italy also began as a permanent member of the Council, but withdrew in 1937. The League had accepted Germany as a member in 1926, deeming it a "peace-loving country", but Adolf Hitler pulled Germany out when he came to power in 1933.

## **2, Aggressive nationalism**

After the First World War a peace treaty was signed. But the treaty contained humiliating provisions for the failed powers. Great injustice was obviously imposed on Germany. Italy and Japan met the same fate. These nations were completely disarmed and heavy war penalties were imposed upon them. This led to a public dissatisfaction in these countries. This resentment was also targeted to league as League of Nations was a part of the peace treaty. A new kind of aggressive nationalism got political accreditation in these countries. This aggressive nationalism rejected any kind of internationalism. They wanted to regain their earlier glory at any cost and they never heeded to the voice of the international community

## **3, Structural inefficiencies**

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The League of nations was a weak organization with no enforcing powers. The majority rule prevented the organization from making any strong decisions. . It required a unanimous vote of nine, later fifteen, Council members to enact a resolution; hence, conclusive and effective action was difficult, if not impossible. It was also slow in coming to its decisions, as certain ones required the unanimous consent of the entire Assembly. This problem mainly stemmed from the fact that the primary members of the League of Nations were not willing to accept the possibility of their fate being decided by other countries, and by enforcing unanimous voting had effectively given themselves veto power. Practically the assembly met only once a year. The assembly was incapable of any serious deliberations within this short span of time. Germany and Russia, two potentially powerful nations, were not allowed to join the organization at first.

## **5, Absence of own force**

The League of Nations lacked an armed force of its own and depended on the Great Powers to enforce its resolutions, which they were very unwilling to do. Its two most important members, Britain and France, were reluctant to use sanctions and even more reluctant to resort to military action on behalf of the League. Immediately after the First World War, pacifism became a strong force among both the people and governments of the

two countries. The British Conservatives were especially tepid to the League and preferred, when in government, to negotiate treaties without the involvement of that organization. Moreover, the League's advocacy of disarmament for Britain, France, and its other members, while at the same time advocating collective security, meant that the League was depriving itself of the only forceful means by which it could uphold its authority

## **6, Failure of Collective Security System**

The onset of the Second World War demonstrated that the League had failed in its primary purpose, the prevention of another world war. The origins of the League as an organization created by the Allied powers as part of the peace settlement to end the First World War led to it being viewed as a "League of Victors". The League's neutrality tended to manifest itself as indecision. Another important weakness grew from the contradiction between the idea of collective security that formed the basis of the League and international relations between individual states. The League's collective security system required nations to act, if necessary, against states they considered friendly, and in a way that might endanger their national interests, to support states for which they had no normal affinity. This weakness was exposed during the Corfu crisis, Manchurian crisis and Abyssinia Crisis

**The Corfu Dispute 1923** An Italian general was killed while he was doing some work for the League in Greece. The Italian leader Mussolini was angry with the Greeks. He invaded the Greek island of Corfu. The Greeks asked the League to offer help to their nation. The Council of the League met and discussed the issue. It condemned Mussolini, and told him to leave Corfu at the earliest. Mussolini refused to accept the League decision. He refused to leave Corfu. On the face of opposition from Mussolini, League changed its decision. It told Greece to apologize to Mussolini, and to pay compensation to Italy. The Greeks did as the League said. Then Mussolini gave up his claims on Corfu.

### **The Manchurian crisis 1931**

In the 1930s there was a world-wide economic depression. Japan tried to overcome the depression by building up an empire. In 1932, the Japanese army invaded Manchuria. They threw out the Chinese, and set up their own government there. China raised the issue in the League of Nations and seek their help. The League sent officials to study the problem and the study took a year. In February 1933 League ordered Japan to leave Manchuria. Japan refused to leave Manchuria. Instead, Japan left the League of Nations. Many countries had important trading links with Japan. Because of these trade links of member nations the League could not agree on sanctions or even a ban on weapons sales. Britain and France did not want a war, so nothing was done. The Japanese stayed in Manchuria. The League had failed to back Greece.

### **The Abyssinian issue 1935**

The Italian aggressive nationalism found its champion in Mussolini. Mussolini wanted to rebuild Italy as a super power and he planned to invade Abyssinia (Ethiopia). Abyssinia asked the League to help. The League sent a delegation to talk with Mussolini.



But Mussolini was busy with his war plans and he send an army to Africa. The League suggested a plan to give part of Abyssinia to Italy. Mussolini ignored the League, and invaded Abyssinia immediately. The League banned weapons sales to Italy, and they put sanctions on rubber and metal. But these sanctions never worked. In fact Britain and France secretly agreed to give Abyssinia to Italy. Amidst the League protests Italy conquered Abyssinia and the League failed.

### **The end of League of Nations**

As the situation in Europe escalated into war, the Assembly transferred power to the Secretary General on 1938 to allow the League to continue to exist legally and carry on reduced operations. The headquarters of the League, the Palace of Nations, remained unoccupied for nearly six years until the Second World War ended. At the 1943 Tehran Conference, the Allied powers agreed to create a new body to replace the League: the United Nations. Many League bodies, such as the International Labour Organization, continued to function and eventually became affiliated with the UN. The designers of the structures of the United Nations intended to make it more effective than the League.

The final meeting of the League of Nations took place on 12 April 1946 in Geneva. Delegates from 34 nations attended the assembly. This session concerned itself with liquidating the League: it transferred assets of league to the UN, returned reserve funds to the nations that had supplied them, and settled the debts of the League. The motion that dissolved the League passed unanimously

## **MODULE 2:**

### **UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION**

**United Nations Organization: Purposes and principles. Structure and functions of Principal Organs, Changing role of Secretary General, A brief analysis of specialised agencies**

#### **ORIGIN OF UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION**

The origin of the United Nations Organization can be traced back to the League of Nations. League of Nations was formed to wipe out the phenomenon of war. But it failed to achieve the aim. One of the major reasons for the Second World War was the ineffectiveness of League of nation system to settle international disputes. The organization failed to prevent the war and helplessly witnessed the most devastating wars ever fought. The Second World War resulted in unparalleled human sufferings. War was fought in every front and lethal weapons were widely used. The human casualties in the war were unparalleled. There was also large scale human right violation including genocides. At the end of the war, the world witnessed the use of the most dangerous weapon-the atomic bombs. All these happenings led to a common understanding that the human kind cannot afford a third world war. Leaders of the leading nations came to an understanding that a permanent and effective mechanism for international peace and security is the need of the hour.

The earliest concrete plan for a new world organisation began under the aegis of the US State Department in 1939. US President Franklin D. Roosevelt first coined the term 'United Nations' as a term to describe the Allied countries. In 1941, the then American President Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Churchill published the Atlantic Charter, a summary of post war expectations. The Atlantic charter contained the outline of a permanent system of international security against aggression. In January 1942 an international conference was held in Washington. The conference was attended by 26 nations. The participant nations accepted the Atlantic Charter and issued a declaration. The term 'United Nation' was firstly entered into the official vocabulary in the Washington declaration. The detailed plan of United Nations Organization was prepared at the subsequent conferences at Moscow, Dumbarton Oaks and Yalta. The unceasing efforts to form a more effective organisation to promote collective security and peace finally resulted in the birth of United Nations Organization. The final draft of the charter was prepared in Sanfrancisco conference which met in 1945. It was signed by 51 nations and United Nations Organization officially came into existence on October 24, 1945, replacing the old League of Nations.

Membership in the United Nations is open to all peace-loving states that accept the obligations contained in the UN Charter. At present (2013) the UNO consist of 193 members. South Sudan was the last state to enter into the UN. They joined UN on 14 July 2011. In addition to the member states, there are also states with observer status. The official head quarters of the organisation is at New York. UN accredited six official languages to be used in intergovernmental meetings and documents. The UN official languages are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish. On the basis of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, the UN and its agencies are immune from the laws of the countries where they operate. The organisation is financed by voluntary contributions from its member states. In 2001 UN won the Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts to establish global peace. Together with this a number of UN officers and agencies have also been awarded the Nobel Prize.

The United Nations Organisation is considered as an important force for peace and human development. It works for the maintenance of international peace and security. UN is effective in the promotion of human rights. It is also actively engaged in fostering social and economic development, protecting the environment, and providing humanitarian aid in cases of famine, natural disaster, and armed conflict. The UN also declares and coordinates international observances, periods of time to observe some issue of international interest. Examples include World Tuberculosis Day, Earth Day and International Year of Deserts and Desertification. However critics have called the organisation ineffective, corrupt, and biased. To them the UN also reflects the global political power structure with the wealthy nations occupying an important role in global governance.

### **Purpose of the United Nations**

The preamble of the UN charter sets forth the aim of the United Nations organisations. The preamble starts with the words, “We, the people of the United Nations will save succeeding generations from the scourge of war.” Articles of the UN Charter sets forth the following purpose of the United Nations;

1. To maintain international peace and security: To achieve this purpose UN adopted several means like peaceful settlement of disputes, collective security, disarmament etc. The Security Council along with General assembly and international court of justice works for peace maintenance.
2. To develop friendly relations among nations: UN provides good opportunities to member states for developing friendly relations among themselves. They meet together in the UN forums and join the UN discussion forums.
3. To achieve international cooperation in solving international economic, social, cultural and humanitarian problems and in encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedom for all.
4. To be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in attaining these common ends and more specific goals.

### **Basic principles of United Nations**

Article 2 of the UN Charter defines the basic principles on which the United Nation is founded. They are;

1. The UN is based on the sovereign equality of all its members.
2. All members are to fulfil in good faith their charter obligations.
3. They are to settle their international disputes by peaceful means and without endangering peace, security and justice.
4. They are refraining in their international relations from the threat or use of force against other states.

5. They are to give the United Nations every assistance to any action it takes in accordance with the charter, and shall not assist states against which the United Nations is taking preventive or enforcement action.
6. The United Nations shall make sure that states which are not members act in accordance with these principles in so far as is necessary for the maintenance of international peace and security.
7. Nothing in the charter is to authorise the United Nations to intervene in matter which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state.

### **Principal Organs of the United Nations Organizations**

The United Nations Organization works through its six principal organs. The Principal organs of the UN are;

1. General Assembly
2. Security Council
3. Social and Economic Council
4. Trusteeship Council
5. International Court of Justice
6. Secretariat

### **General Assembly**

General Assembly is the most important organ of the United Nations. General Assembly consists of all the members of the UN. It has to assemble at least once in year. Every member state can send a team of five representatives, but in the proceeding of the Assembly a member state can cast only one vote. The General Assembly can be called as the Parliament of the United Nations. The Assembly meets annually but special sessions may be called by the Secretary General at the request of the Security Council or by the request of a majority of the members of the UN. The Assembly elects its President for each session.

The General Assembly is essentially a deliberative body. It discusses the matters which came under the purview of the United Nations Charter. The decision on important questions are made by two- third majority of the members present and voting and an all other matters by a majority vote. The following matters are decided by 2/3 majority.

1. Peace and security of the world
2. The election of the non permanent members of Security Council and members of Trusteeship Council
3. The admission of the members of the United Nations, the expulsion of the members and so on.

The General Assembly has established a number of council working groups, boards, committees etc.

## **Functions of the General Assembly**

The functions of the general assembly can be classified into deliberative functions, supervisory functions, elective functions, financial functions and constitutional functions.

**Deliberative functions:** The General Assembly may discuss any matter which falls within the scope of the UN Charter. It deals with the principles of co-operation for all international peace and security issues brought before it by any member of the UN or by the Security Council. The General Assembly has been charged with the duty of promoting international laws and its codifications, realizations of human rights and fundamental freedom for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion. The Assembly has also been charged with the responsibility of promoting international co-operation in economic, social, cultural, educational and health fields.

**Supervisory function:** The General Assembly has been empowered to administer and supervise Trusteeship Council, Economic and Social Council and the specialised agencies. The General Assembly is empowered to receive and consider annual and special reports from the Security Council and other organs of UN.

**Elective function:** The General Assembly can admit new numbers, suspend or expel existing members. The Assembly elects the judges of International Court of justice, non permanent members of the Security Council and the members of the other organs of UN. It also appoints the secretary General of the UN.

**Financial function:** The assembly approves the budget for the UN and its specialized agencies and also determines the financial contribution of the members' state.

**Constitutional functions:** The General Assembly is empowered to amend the charter of the UN. For amending the charter the assembly needs a two- third majority.

## **Uniting for Peace Resolution**

In the UN Security Council all the five permanent members enjoy a special power called veto power. Any resolution of the Security Council except resolutions relating to procedural matters needs the concurrence of all five members in the council. Any permanent member can exercise veto and block the decisions of other states under these circumstances. In 1950 a deadlock was created in the Security Council over the issue of Korean War. Every resolution on Korea was subjected to veto and no action was possible in the issue. In order to resolve the deadlock US delegate Dean Acheson proposed a plan that was accepted by General Assembly on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1950. It is known by the name of "Acheson plan" or "uniting peace resolution". By this resolution the General Assembly took over the responsibility of taking collective action against the veto power of Security Council. The main features of this resolution were. It authorised the General Assembly to meet within 24 hours if the Security Council is unable to exercise its primary responsibility for international peace and security.

1. In case of breach of peace or act of aggression General assembly can authorise the use of armed forces when necessary to maintain international peace and security.
2. It established a peace observation commission to observe and report in any area where international tension exists.
3. It created collective measures committee to study and report on the way and means to strengthen international peace and security.

Uniting for Peace Resolution has transformed the General Assembly from a merely deliberative body in to an organ with effective power to solve crisis situation and has made it the ultimate custodian of collective security. The General Assembly became effective organ by the following reasons, a) By shifting issues from the Security Council to General Assembly, b) By passing of the uniting for Peace Resolution by two third majority; c) Its recommendations are being followed as if they are legally binding decisions. d) They possess considerable moral authority because of its strength (193 member's states). It is like the town meeting of the world.

### **Security Council**

The Security Council is the most powerful organ of UN. It is designed to give direction and leadership to the work of the organization as a whole. The Security Council is mainly an 'action agency' of the UN and thus is a kin to the executive organ of the government. Unlike the General Assembly it is a smaller but a continuous body, capable of meeting on any given day. The real power of the UN lay in the Security Council. Originally it consisted of 11 members. The first amendment of the charter in 1965 expanded its strength to 15 members. Presently the UN Security Council consists of 10 non-permanent members and 5 permanent members. The 5 permanent members are known as the 'Big Five'. They are China, USSR, USA, France and Britain. Non-permanent members are elected by the General Assembly for two year term. The five permanent members enjoy the right to veto. On substantive matters their concurrence is essential. A negative vote from any of the permanent members can end up the debate on the issue. This is called veto power. However on procedural matters an affirmative vote of any 9 members is sufficient. Security Council enjoys deliberative, executive and regulative powers.

### **Powers and functions of Security Council**

The Security Council was designed to be the UN's action agency. Article 24 of the charter, therefore, confers upon the council "primary responsibility for the maintenance of peace and security". The specific powers of the Security Council are laid down in chapters 6, 7, 8 and 13 of the charter. Chapter 6 relates to 'Pacific Settlement of Disputes' and chapter 7 to 'Threat to Peace Breaches of Peace and Acts of Aggression'. The major functions of the Security Council are;

- 1) If parties to a dispute fail in the Pacific Settlement of their disputes, the Security Council may call upon them to seek a solution by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements or other peaceful means of their own choice.
- 2) To consider, discuss, investigate and make necessary recommendations in regard to situations arising out of threat to peace, breach of peace or an act of aggression or any other controversy.
- 3) The Security Council has to determine as to the existence of any threat to peace or act of aggression and there upon it may recommend enforcement action.
- 4) The Security Council, in order to give effect to its decisions may call upon the members of the United Nations to apply such measures as interruption of economic relations and the severance of diplomatic relations.
- 5) In case the other measures are found inadequate the Security Council may take such action by air, sea or land forces as may be necessary to maintain international peace and security.
- 6) To recommend to the General Assembly admission of states for membership in the United Nations.
- 7) To recommend expulsion of states for violation of the charter or restoration of privileges.
- 8) To formulate plans for the regulation of armaments
- 9) To review the administration of strategic areas and trusteeship territories.
- 10) To participate with the General Assembly in the election of judges to the International Court of Justice.
- 11) To make recommendations or decide upon measures to be taken to give effect to judgment of the International Court in the event a party fails to perform its obligations there under.
- 12) To recommend to the General Assembly the person to be appointed as Secretary General of the UN.

The role and prestige of the Security Council has changed from time to time. In the initial days of the UN, the work of the Security Council was stalled by frequent vetoes. Practically no action was possible when the conflict involved big power interests. However at many instances UN mediation effectively settled many international disputes during the earlier periods. The end of the cold war in 1990-91 inaugurated a new era in the history of the Security Council. Presently the council effectively interprets the charter clauses to ensure international peace and security and to tackle new challenges within the parameters of the charter. They are also instrumental in the deployment of vastly vitalised peace keeping operations in places of conflict. The Security Council also compels the targeted parties through non military sanctions to comply with the decisions of the council. This may include economic sanctions and political pressure.

New type of challenging tasks has been taken by the Security Council other than exercises of supervision of adherence to cease fire arrangements between the parties of conflict. These tasks include humanitarian assignments, administrative and electoral police functions.



### **The Economic and Social Council**

Under Article 55 of the charter, the UN is expected to create conditions of stability and wellbeing which are essential for peaceful and friendly relations among nations. To accomplish this objective there should be economic and social progress leading to higher standard of living and full employment. For this purpose the UN established the Economic and Social Council (EcoSoc). The Economic and Social Council consists of 54 members, elected by the General Assembly. Each year the Assembly elects 18 members for a term of 3 years. The council meet twice in a year. The Economic and social Council has been charged with the duty of performing the economic, social, cultural, educational, health and other humanitarian functions of the United Nations. It co ordinate the activities of the several specialized agencies which are created to undertake economic and social welfare activities.

### **Powers and Functions of the Council**

The major powers of the Economic and Social Council are;

- 1) To make or initiate studies and reports with respect to international economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related matters;
- 2) To make recommendations with respect to above matters to the General Assembly, to the members of the UN and to the specialized agencies concerned;
- 3) To make recommendations for the purpose of promoting respect for and observation of human rights and fundamental freedom for all;
- 4) To prepare draft conventions for submission to the General Assembly with respect to matters falling within its competence;
- 5) To enter into agreements with specialized agencies and bringing them into relationship with the United Nations;
- 6) To call international conferences on economic, social, and humanitarian cooperation among nations;
- 7) To coordinate the activities of the specialized agencies of the United Nations and
- 8) To obtain report from the specialised agencies of UN.

Economic and Social Council has remained busy in solving the problems of and fulfilling the aspirations of the developing nations. Some of the major results of the study and research activities of the Economic and Social Council are the world economic survey, the report on the world social situation, the United Nations statistical yearbook, the United Nations demographic yearbook and the United Nations yearbook on Human rights. The Economic and Social Council works through commissions, committees and other subsidiary bodies. There are functional commissions and regional commissions



The functional commissions are;

- 1) Transport and communication commission
- 2) Statistical commission
- 3) Fiscal commission
- 4) Social development commission
- 5) Population commission
- 6) Human right commission
- 7) Status of women commission
- 8) Narcotic drugs commission
- 9) International commodity trade commission

The regional commission are;

- 1) Economic commission for Europe
- 2) The Economic commission for Asia and Pacific
- 3) The Economic commission for Latin America
- 4) Economic commission for Africa

### **The Trusteeship Council**

The Trusteeship system under UN is a direct heritage of the mandates system of the League of Nations. The Trusteeship Council was set up to supervise and administer trust territories placed under its disposal by individual agreements. Chapter 12 of the UN charter provides for an international trusteeship system which shall apply to (a) territories held under mandate; (b) territories which may detached from enemy states as a result of the Second World War and (c) territories voluntarily placed under the system by states responsible for their administration.

The UN charter sets forth the basic objectives of the trusteeship system. The first objective is the furtherance of international peace and security. The second objective is the promotion of socio-economic interests of the inhabitants of the territories under the UN control. The trusteeship council is aiming the progress towards self government of the areas under UN control. Encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and promotion of equal treatment in social, economic and commercial matters for all members of the United Nations and their nations are the other objectives of the council.

### **Functions and scope of the Trusteeship Council**

1. To ensure the political, economic, social and educational advancement of colonial people without undermining their colonial culture.
2. To help in maintaining international peace and security
3. To assist colonial people to achieve self-government and independence
4. To treat the people justly and protect them against abuse
5. To encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedom
6. To encourage recognition of the interdependence of the people of the world
7. To ensure the equal treatment of members of the United Nations of their relationship with the trust territories.

All members of the United Nations that administer trust territories are ex-officio members of the trusteeship Council. Permanent members of the Security Council that are not having administering powers also have automatic membership in the council. To achieve parity in members between administering and non administering states, the General Assembly elects sufficient additional members to the council. By 1975, ten out of eleven trust territories under the trusteeship council gained their independence. After 1975 the only remaining area under its supervision was the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands with the United States as trustee. Independence of this territory in 1994 left the Trusteeship Council with no business to perform and it has become non-functional. The Secretary General (Kofi Annan) in his 1994 Annual Report on the work on the organization has recommended that the General Assembly may proceed with steps to eliminate the organ in accordance with Article 108 of the UN charter.

### **The International Court of Justice**

Chapter 14 of the UN charter deals with the International Court of Justice. It is the principle judicial organ of the United Nations with headquarters in The Hague. It functions in accordance with its statute which is an integral part of the United Nations charter. It consists of 15 judges. They are elected by a concurrent vote of the General Assembly and Security Council. They are chosen on the basis of their qualifications and not on the basis of their nationality. The judges serve for a term of nine years with the terms of five judges expiring every year. After the expiry of their term the judges of the court may be re-elected. They cannot engage in any other occupation during their term of office. The decisions of the court are taken by a majority vote and in case of a tie the president is empowered to give casting vote. The court has the power to elect its president and vice president for a period of 3 years.

### **Jurisdiction of International Court of Justice**

The jurisdiction of the court involves voluntary jurisdiction, compulsory jurisdiction and advisory jurisdiction.

**Voluntary or original jurisdiction;** Voluntary or original jurisdiction of the court covers such cases which the parties are voluntarily refer to the court. The voluntary jurisdiction of the court is based upon the consent of the parties to dispute. The parties declare that they are willing to transfer the case to the court and that they will submit to its decisions.

**Compulsory jurisdiction;** The court possesses compulsory jurisdiction power in cases where the parties concerned are bound by treaties or conventions in which they have agreed that the court shall have jurisdiction over certain categories of disputes. In such a situation the case automatically goes to the International court of Justice.

**Advisory jurisdiction;** The General Assembly and the Security Council can ask the court for an advisory opinion on any legal question. Other organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies when authorised by the General Assembly can also ask for advisory opinion on legal questions within the scope of their activities. More than three- fourths of all requests to the court for advisory opinion have been made by the General Assembly.

### **The Secretariat**

The UN charter establishes a secretariat that is the principle administrative body of the UN. It is like an international civil service. It recruits its employees from almost all the member states. The secretary general acts as the chief administrative officer in the General Assembly, the Security Council, and the economic and social council and in the trusteeship council. He is appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council for a five year term. During the election of the secretary General any permanent members of the Security Council can exercise a veto. Deadlocks usually took place in the selection process.

The UN secretariat is organized on a functional basis. There are following 8 major departments in the Secretariat.

1. Security council affairs
2. Economic affairs
3. Social affairs
4. Trusteeship and information
5. Public information
6. Conference and general services
7. Administrative and financial services
8. Legal department

Majority of the secretariat staff is deployed in UN head quarters office in New York and the Geneva office. However the secretariat provides staffs for small field services for the regional commissions and several UN affiliated agencies and information centres throughout the world.

### **The Secretary General**

The Secretary General is the chief administrative officer of the UN. As such he occupies an important position in the UN system. There are no specific criteria for the post, but over the years, it has become accepted that the post shall be appointed on the basis of geographical rotation, and that the Secretary-General shall not originate from one of the five permanent Security Council member states. The work of the secretary general involves certain degree of inherent creative tension that originates from the charters definitions of the job. The secretary general works as the chief executive of the secretariat. He is responsible for the UN administration. He also acts as the spokes person and embodiment of the will of the international community.

Trygve Lie was the first Secretary General of the UN. He resigned in 1952. Trygve Lie was followed by Dag Hammarskjold who died in office in the year 1961. U Thant was elected as the third Secretary General in 1961. He was followed by Kurt Waldheim in 1971. Javier Perez de Cuellar took office in 1982 and continued in office till 1991. In 1992 Boutros Boutros-Ghali assumed the office and continued in service till 1996. The current Secretary-General is Ban Ki-moon, who took over from Kofi Annan in 2007 and has been elected for a second term which ends in 2016.

The major functions of the secretary General are;

- a) To be the chief administrative officer of the UN organisation
- b) To act as secretary to all the major delegate bodies of the United Nations.
- c) To perform functions assigned to him by the General Assembly Security Council, Trusteeship council and socioeconomic council.
- d) To prepare an annual report to the General assembly on the work of the organization
- e) To appoint the Secretariat staffs under regulations established by the General Assembly and
- f) To act on his own initiative to bring to the attention of the Security Council any matter that in his opinion threatens international peace and security.

In modern times, the role of the Secretary General has enlarged far beyond the expectations of the makers of the charter. This enlarged role has resulted both from circumstances and from the initiative of each of the incumbents in the office. At present the UN Secretary General is one of the prominent international figures. He is closely associating with world leaders to ensure global peace and harmony. His personal missions have succeeded to reduce many international conflicts. When dead locks and conflicts are threatening the international system, the good office of the secretary general is effectively used to better the situations. The secretary general also makes general appeals to humanity to resolve international conflicts.

### **Specialized Agencies of UN**

The major work of the UN is being done through specialised agencies of the UN. The specialised agencies function under the UN charter and they work towards the realisation of UN objectives. The major agencies are 1, International Labour Organization, 2, World Health organization, 3, The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization, 4, Food and Agricultural Organization, 5, United Nations Children Emergency Fund

#### **1. International Labour Organisation (ILO)**

The International Labour Organisation was established in 1919 as a part of the League of Nations. In 1946 it became the first specialized agency associated with the United Nations. The main purpose of ILO is to promote international action aimed at full employment and rise in living standard and conditions of labours. The organization tries to improve the

economic and social stability of working class. ILO prepares drafts for the benefit of labourers on such subjects as labour, wages, hours of work, minimum age for work, workmen compensation, social security, safety of workers, freedom to labourers to form union, labour inspection etc. This organization has included many international agreements in the field of labour. ILO organizes international conferences on labour related themes. Its head quarters is at Geneva in Switzerland.

## **2. World health Organization (WHO)**

World health Organization came into being in 1948. The main purpose of the WHO is the attainment of the highest possible standard of health by all the people of the world. The WHO advises government on matters of health and hygiene. It gives technical assistance on health related issues and holds international conference on matters related to health. The organisation strives to prevent the spread of disease internationally and helps the nations to stamp out disease like cholera, tuberculosis, leprosy, smallpox, malaria. The WHO consists of three organs. The World health Assembly, the executive board and secretariat. Its head quarters is located at Geneva in Switzerland.

## **3. United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organizations was established in the year 1946. The purpose of UNESCO is to create greater respect for the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedom through the medium of education, science and culture. It lays great emphasis on the development of basic education. The organization works for raising educational standards and for promoting scientific research. The UNESCO is working for scientific and cultural development of backward countries. The UNESCO helps it members to improve the teaching skill both in fields of natural and social sciences. The organization consists of three organs- the General Conference, the Executive Board and the Secretariat. Its head quarters is at Paris.

## **4. Food and Agricultural organization (FAO)**

This Food and Agricultural organization was established in the year 1945. The activities of the organization are directed by a conference. All member nations of UN are a part of the conference. Its head quarters is at Rome in Italy. Its aim is to raise the living standards, especially of rural population by increasing production. This organization makes arrangements for the preservation and better distribution of nutritious food. FAO works to increase the output of farmlands forests and fisheries and raise nutrition level. It tries to prevent malnutrition. It helps to send surplus food to deficit states. FAO helped many countries to meet food crisis. It has sent its experts in many backward countries and it has granted fellowships to impart training to the people to increase the level of production. The food and agriculture Organization suggests efficient method of distribution of food status and also undertakes research in agriculture.

### **5, United Nations Children Emergency Fund (UNICEF)**

The United Nations Children Emergency Fund was established in 1946 to provide aid to children who were victims of Second World War and to improve child health in war devastated countries. UNICEF became a permanent body of UN in 1950 and now it is a permanent body working under economic and social council. Its aim is to better the condition of children and mother in the developing countries of the world. UNICEF entirely depended on voluntary contribution of money, goods and services from governments, private organizations and individuals. UNICEF actively cooperates with governments in the formulation and implementation of projects of health nutrition, education and family welfare. UNICEF is based in New York.

### **6, The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank) (IBRD)**

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) are the result of the Breton Woods Conference of 1944. But they came into existence in 1947. The purpose of this organization is to help in the reconstruction of the territories which were destroyed during Second World War. It also assists member states in reconstruction and development by encouraging capital investment. It encourages balanced development of international trade and also investment of foreign capital. IBRD gives loans for the development of industries and to facilitate economic advancement. The fund of the World Bank is collected through the purchase of shares by the member nations. Its head office is at Washington.

### **7, International Monetary Fund**

Like the IBRD, the International Monetary Fund emerged from the Breton woods Conference in 1944 but actually came into existence in 1947. The International Monetary Fund aims to promote efficient and proper international commerce and provide machinery for consultation of Monetary problems. The money for the IMF comes through contributions made by the member states. The number of votes a member state possess depends on the money deposited by it in the IMF. No country can seek membership of IBRD without having the membership of IMF. It provides good helps for the progress of international trade. IMF gives loans to third world countries through the programme of structural adjustment package. The IMF head quarters in located in Washington DC, USA.

### **8, The World Trade Organization**

The World Trade Organization (WTO) emerged out of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariff (GATT). General agreement on Trade and Tariff was meant for creating a free trade situation by removing obstructions in the form of Quota and Tariffs in international commerce and trade. The Uruguay round of 1994 ended the GATT negotiations. The World Trade Organization was formed at Geneva in 1995. WTO performs the duties aimed at solving the trade dispute between states and attaining higher growth for world trade. The head quarters of WTO is situated at Geneva.

### **9, The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is an international organisation that seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy. IAEA also inhibit the use of nuclear energy for any military purpose, including nuclear weapons. The IAEA was established as an autonomous organisation in 1957. IAEA reports to both the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council. The IAEA has its headquarters in Vienna, Austria. The IAEA serves as an intergovernmental forum for scientific and technical cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear technology and nuclear power worldwide. IAEA and its former Director General, Mohamed ElBaradei, were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005.

### **10, International Civil Aviation Organization**

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations. It codifies the principles and techniques of international air navigation and fosters the planning and development of international air transport to ensure safe and orderly growth. The ICAO Council adopts standards and recommended practices concerning air navigation, its infrastructure, flight inspection, prevention of unlawful interference, and facilitation of border-crossing procedures for international civil aviation.

### **11, The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)**

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is a specialized agency of the United Nations dedicated to eradicating rural poverty in developing countries. It was established as an international financial institution in 1977. Its headquarters is in Rome, Italy.

### **12, The International Maritime Organization (IMO)**

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) was established in Geneva in 1948. the IMO is a specialized agency of the United Nations with 170 Member States. The IMO's primary purpose is to develop and maintain a comprehensive regulatory framework for shipping and navigation. Its headquarters is London.

### **13, The International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that is responsible for issues that concern information and communication technologies. ITU coordinates the shared global use of the radio spectrum, promotes international cooperation in assigning satellite orbits, works to improve telecommunication infrastructure in the developing world, and assists in the development of worldwide standards. It is based Geneva, Switzerland

### **14, The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**

In order to promote and accelerate industrial development in developing countries, UN established United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) as its specialized agency in 1966. The headquartered of UNIDO is in Vienna, Austria.



### **Module-3**

## **ROLE OF UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION IN THE CHANGED GLOBAL SCENARIO**

- (A) Peace Keeping operations under UNO: A brief Analysis
- (B) Collective Security measures undertaken by UNO: Korean and Iraq experiences
- (C) Disarmament efforts under UN: A critical analysis
- (D) Enforcement of Human rights: An Analysis
- (E) New International Economic Order: Challenges and prospects
- (F) Revision of the UN charter and democratization of Security Council

### **(A) Peace keeping operations under UN; a brief analysis**

Peace keeping is one of the major tools used by the United Nations Organization to assist host countries to navigate the difficult path from conflict to peace. UN peace keepers provide security to the affected countries and help them to manage their transition from conflict to peace. Currently UN is maintaining 16 peace keeping operations in four continents. The peace keeping operations are multidimensional in nature. The purpose of peace keeping is normally maintenance of peace and security in the concerned state. UN peacekeeping force is also deployed to facilitate the political process, protect civilians, assist in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants, support the organization of elections, protect and promote human rights and assist in restoring the rule of law. The military remains the backbone of peacekeeping operations. However a set of civil and political experts including administrators, police force, economists, legal experts, election observers, human right monitors, humanitarian activists and communication and public information experts are also a part of the missions.

After the Cold War, there was a rapid increase in the number of peacekeeping operations. With a new consensus and a common sense of purpose, the Security Council authorized a total of 20 new operations between 1989 and 1994, raising the number of peacekeepers from 11,000 to 75,000. In the second half of the 1990s, the Council authorized new UN operations in Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Guatemala and Haiti. Later the Security Council established large and complex peacekeeping operations in many African countries including ; Burundi, Chad and the Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo , Ethiopia , Eritrea , Liberia, Sierra Leone , Sudan and Syria.

UN Peacekeeping is led by the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO). Peace keeping is generally guided by three basic principles,



1. Consent of the parties-Every peace keeping mission is commissioned only with the consent of affected parties. UN never imposes a peace keeping mission on a non-willing state.
2. Impartiality- A major policy of the peace keeping operation is impartiality in force deployment and operations. The UN force is a multinational force with no particular bias. They are committed to the UN mandate only.
3. No use of force except for the defense of the mandate- No UN peace keeping mission uses force unless required by the mandate. Minimal force may be used for self-protection and for the protection of the mandate.

Setting up of observer missions is an important component of UN peace keeping and peacemaking. Observer missions usually consist of unarmed military and civilian personnel who monitor the implementation of cease fire agreements between warring groups and report to the Secretary General. The first observer mission known as the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) was set up in Middle East in 1948.

In 1991, the United Nations observation mission in EI Salvador (ONUSAL), a peace building operation to monitor application of a series of agreement between the Salvadoran government and the FMLN at resolving the civil war was set up. The civil war in EI Salvador ended in 1992 as a result of missions efforts.

In Namibia, the UN transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) supervised the territory's first free and fair elections, leading to independence in Namibia. The UNTAG's military tasks included monitoring the cease fire and verifying the withdrawal of foreign troops and demobilization of various security forces.

The UN transition Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) set up in 1992 undertook one of the most complex peace making operations in the UN history. The UN organized free and fair elections in cooperation with various UN agencies and nongovernmental organization.

### **Financing Peace keeping Operations**

The UN has no military forces of its own. The UN Member States provide, on a voluntary basis, the military and police personnel required for each peacekeeping operation. Peacekeeping soldiers are paid by their own Governments according to their own national rank and salary scale. Countries volunteering uniformed personnel to peacekeeping operations are reimbursed by the UN at a standard rate, approved by the General Assembly. Police and other civilian personnel are paid from the peacekeeping budgets established for each operation. The UN also reimburses Member States for providing equipment, personnel and support services to military or police forces. The financing of UN Peacekeeping operations is the collective responsibility of all UN Member States. According to article 17 of the UN charter every member State is legally obligated to pay their respective share towards peacekeeping. The sharing of peacekeeping expenses is based on a special scale of assessments. Under this formula the five permanent members of the Security Council are required to pay a larger share because of their special responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.

### **(B) Collective Security measures undertaken by UNO: Korean and Iraq experiences**

Collective security occupies a major place in the study of international politics. The concept of collective security is commonly regarded as most effective tool in making peace and deterring aggression. Collective security has been defined by George Schwarzenegger as “machinery for joint action in order to prevent or counter any attack against an established international order”. It clearly implies collective measures for dealing with threats to peace. The idea of collective security evolved from an international understanding that peace can be maintained only by the joint pledge of the states to take action against a state which resorts to war and poses a threat to world peace. Ernest A Gross, United Nations deputy representative to the United Nations stated a truism when he declared: “there is no alternative to collective action for the achievement of security. The opposite of collective security is complete insecurity”. In a nutshell the nations unite under the collective security system and take care of the security of each of them collectively. Morgenthau puts the principles of “one for all and all for one”.

### **Collective security and the United Nations**

The covenant of League of Nations contained detailed provisions for collective security system. It provided for an effective network of cooperation between various nations and people to ensure collective security. But the league failed to implement the collective security measures. This was one of the major reasons for the outbreak and spread of Second World War. Learning from the failure of league's collective security system, United Nations organization arranged for much more extensive and much more far reaching provisions of collective security.

Article 1 of the UN charter refers to “effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to peace and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of peace”

Chapter seven of the charter (Articles 39-51) makes detailed provision regarding collective security. Article 39 of the charter authorizes the Security Council to “determine the existence of any threat to the breach of peace or act of aggression” and to “make recommendations, or decide what measures shall be taken”. Article 41 authorizes the Security Council to decide measures “not involving the use of armed force” to be used to give effect to its decision under Article 39. It may call upon the members to take such measures as the severance of diplomatic and economic relations. Article 42 empowers the Security Council to take military measures involving the use of air, sea or land forces. Article 43 provides for making available armed assistance. Under Article 45 the member states are obliged to provide national forces for combined international enforcement.

Thus the United Nations charter has developed a comprehensive system of collective Security. The members of the UN accepted a commitment to abide by and give full support to the decision of Security Council in the Matter of collective measures.

### **Korean War experience**

The collective security system under the United Nations was put to a real test in 1950 when the United Nations took action to halt the North Korean attack on South Korea. Until the Korean crisis the potentialities of the United Nations for collective action against aggression were largely untested.

On June 25, 1950 North Korea attacked South Korea and thus precipitated, as Palmer and Perkins comments “the greatest international crisis since the end of world war”. The matter was brought to the notice of the Security Council immediately. At its meeting on June 25, the Security Council passed a resolution by 9 to 0 vote (Yugoslavia abstained and the Soviet Union was absent in the Security Council) that North Korea was an aggressor and this action constituted a breach of peace. The resolution called upon the parties to immediately stop hostilities and demanded withdrawal of North Korean forces to the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel. It also requested all UN members to render every assistance to the UN in the execution of this resolution and to refrain from giving assistance to the North Korean authorities. The absence of Soviet Union, which was boycotting the Security Council during this period on the issue of communist China’s admission to UN, made it possible for the Security Council to take this decision as there was no soviet veto.

Sixteen member states provided troops under a United Nations Joint Command. This United Nations force was primarily dominated by America .On September 15th 1950, United Nations troops landed an attack against the invading army of North Korea. They effectively cut the North Korean army in half and pushed them out of South Korea. The UN force then advanced into North Korea – despite warnings from Communist China. This resulted in a Chinese attack on United Nations troops and between November 1950 and January 1951, the Chinese managed to push back the United Nations force. Later the war degenerated into an equal war with neither the United Nations or the Chinese managing to gain the upper hand. In 1953, a ceasefire was agreed which exists to this day. South Korea regained its independence.

The United Nations received much support for taking action against an aggressor nation. Sixteen UN nations supplied fighting units and five sent military hospitals and field ambulances. Australia was one of the very first to contribute military personnel from all three services. The single largest UN contributor was the United States of America (USA) which at one stage had 140,000 personnel deployed in direct combat roles in Korea. Great Britain, Canada, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Colombia, Ethiopia, South Africa, New Zealand, Turkey, Greece, Thailand, Philippines and Luxembourg sent fighting units. Norway, Sweden, Denmark, India, Italy contributed military hospitals and field ambulances to the cause. Thus the Korean experience showed that the UN can effectively assure collective security with the help of member states.

### **The Gulf War against Iraq in 1991**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1990, the 1 Iraq army invaded Kuwait and established its control over the state. A week after its invasion, Iraq annexed Kuwait and declared that the existence of Kuwait as an independent nation had come to an end Kuwait's name was changed "Iraq city of Kuwait." All the nations of the world criticized Iraq's military invasion of Kuwait. The UN Security Council by 15-0 vote resolved that Kuwait annexation was illegal and all nations were requested not to give recognition to Iraq's illegal action. Iraq was asked to drawback its decision to annex Kuwait.

The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in, 1990, set into motion a series of actions by U.N. member states that catapulted the United Nations Security Council into the limelight. Between August 2 and December 31, 1990, the Council adopted 12 resolutions that progressively applied elements collective security of the Charter. After condemning the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and demanding Iraq's withdrawal, the Council decided to impose economic sanctions against Iraq. The Council authorized states with maritime forces in the area to "use such measures as may be necessary" to ensure strict implementation of the sanctions as related to shipping. Finally, in Resolution 678 (1990), the Council authorized states "to use all necessary means" to implement previous Council resolutions.

On 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 1991, Iraq withdrew from Kuwait and on 28<sup>th</sup> February and American President Bush declared that Kuwait is free. Gulf war against Iraq in 1991 can be cited as the first example of the Collective security measures under taken by the UNO as conceived in the UN charter itself. The collective action was supported by all the UN members.

### **Disarmament**

Disarmament aims at the reduction and limitation of arms. Disarmament is often mean total elimination of weapons of mass destruction, such as nuclear arms. The discussion on disarmament gained international attention and global support as the nature and scope of conflicts and weaponry used in the conflicts undergone vast changes. Before the 20th century, few countries maintained large armies and their weapons were comparatively less lethal. The majority of those killed and wounded in pre-20th century conflicts were active combatants. By contrast, 20th-century battles were often struggles that encompassed entire societies, and in the case of the two world wars, they engulfed nearly the entire globe. Weapons with more and more indiscriminate destructive power were developed and used. It included nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. At present there is a large stock of weapons of mass destruction in the world. Thousands of nuclear weapons are in an active stage and can reach prospective targets within minutes. A large portion of national budgets are reserved for the development, maintenance and dismantling of weapons also. It is admitted that war today has potentialities for destruction beyond the range of human comprehension. Therefore, it is imperative that the world should be rid of war. The question of peace and security of mankind is closely linked with disarmament.

The terms 'disarmament' and 'arms control' are often confused and taken as identical. In reality they differ from each other, even though they deal with different aspects of same problems. Disarmament does not necessary imply control of arms, as arms control does not necessary means a reduction in armament levels. Disarmament means a plan for the limitation reduction or abolition of armed forces, including their arms and equipment and others related items like military bases and budgets. On the other hand, arms control means a co-operative or multilateral approach to armament policy where armament policy includes amounts and kinds of weapons, forces, development and utilization in periods of relaxation or tension. It aims at improving national security by the adjustment of armament capabilities.

The history of disarmament can be traced back to the treaty of Westphalia in 1648. The treaty stipulated that all existing fortification be demolished and no new fortifications be created. The most systematic effort to reduce the armament was made by Tsar of Russia in 1898 when he addressed a note to the various powers of Europe to meet at Hague and work out a scheme for reduction of arms. But The Hague conference failed to solve the problem of arms race. Under the establishment of League of Nations series effort were made for controlling arms race. But in the presence of mutual distrust and suspicion disarmament was not possible.

### **Disarmament under UN**

The enormous destruction caused by the Second World War roused the conscience of the world. Fearing that another war may completely wipe out the human race, nations of the world started making more eager efforts to regulate the arms race. The UN charter laid great emphasis on the regulation of armaments. Article 11(c) while directing the General Assembly to consider the general principles of co-operation in the maintenance of international peace and security, authorized it to make recommendations to the member state regarding the general principles governing disarmament and regulation of armaments. Article 26 provides that "in order to promote the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion of armaments of the world's human and economic resources. The Security council shall be responsible for formulating plans for the establishment of system for the regulation of armaments". According to Article 47, "there shall be a military staff committee to advice and assist the Security Council on all questions relating to the regulation of armaments and possible disarmament". For ensuring an effective disarmament process the United Nations Organization undertook the following steps;

### **Atomic Energy Commission**

In 1945 the UN general assembly setup an Atomic energy Commission to make specific proposals for the control of atomic energy for peaceful purpose and for bringing about the total prohibition of atomic weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. The commission was expected to enquire into all aspects of the problem and make recommendations. The commission was subordinate to the Security Council and was expected to submit its reports and recommendations to it.

## **Commission on Conventional Armaments**

In pursuance of the General Assembly resolution of December 1946, the Security Council set up a commission which was expected to prepare and submit to the council within three months proposals for “the general regulation and reduction at armaments and armed forces”; and to suggest practical and effective safeguards. It may be noted that this commission was specifically debarred from discussing issues concerning atomic weapons and their control.

### **Disarmament commission**

On the suggestion of the American President Truman that the two disarmament Commission should be merged, the General Assembly setup a committee of twelve members (eleven members of security council and Canada) to report the ways and means where by the work of the two commissions could be combined. The committee recommended the merger of the two commissions. The recommendations were accepted by the General Assembly and a Disarmament Commission was created on in 1952. It was to consist of all the members of the Security Council plus Canada. In 1957 General Assembly increased the strength of the Disarmament Commission to 14. In 1958, all the members of UN were included as its members. The Commission was requested to prepare a draft treaty for the regulation of conventional as well as atomic armaments. The Commission took up a number of issues concerning arms and their reduction but failed to make much progress because of the divergence of views among the super powers.

### **Atoms for Peace Plan**

In 1953, president Eisenhower of USA came out with a plan for peaceful use of atoms. It suggested the establishment of an international pool of fissionable material to be used for peaceful purposes. This plan popularly known as atoms for peace plan appealed to all those powers that possessed atomic energy material to contribute the same to the Atomic energy Commission under the United Nations.

### **Non- Proliferation Treaty (1968)**

The treaty of Non- Proliferation of nuclear weapons was signed on July 1968 and came into force in 1970. 190 countries have joined the Treaty, including the five States recognized under the Treaty as possessing nuclear weapons. The five nuclear states under the treaty are; China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States. Three countries, which have or are suspected of having nuclear weapons programmes, are currently outside the NPT. These countries are India, Israel and Pakistan. The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea announced its withdrawal from the Treaty in 2003. The NPT stipulates that States Parties meet every five years to assess the implementation of the Treaty. The 1995 meeting agreed to extend the Treaty indefinitely. The NPT has three “pillars” or main areas:



1. non-proliferation (stopping the spread of nuclear weapons and related technology),
2. disarmament (getting rid of existing nuclear arsenals), and
3. the right to peacefully use nuclear energy (including access to nuclear technology, which is the right of all States Parties to the NPT).

Since coming into force in 1970, the NPT has largely been successful, although not perfect, at containing the spread of nuclear weapons globally. Efforts at nuclear disarmament by the five nuclear-weapon States have been uneven and incomplete. The United States and the Russian Federation, which possess the vast majority of the world's nuclear weapons, have substantially reduced their nuclear arsenals since the Cold War. Global nuclear arsenals peaked in the mid- 1980s at around 70,000 warheads. Today the total number of warheads is around 23,000, with nearly 8,400 of those operational. But efforts to focus on further reductions largely stalled during the early 2000s, with relations between the Russian Federation and the United States becoming increasingly strained.

The third pillar of the NPT relates to the inalienable right of all Parties to the NPT to develop research, produce and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination. The Parties also undertake to facilitate and have the right to participate in the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The parties of the treaty are encouraged to consider the needs of the developing parts of the world in matters of peaceful use of nuclear energy.

### **Biological Weapons Convention**

An effort to check the use of bacteriological and chemical weapons was made in 1972 by signing the “convention on the prohibition of the development, production and Toxin weapons and on their destruction”. The convention was signed in 1972 and came into force in 1975. The convention impressed the need of achieving effective progress towards general and complete disarmament, including the prohibition elimination of all types of weapons of mass destruction.

### **Efforts by the UN General Assembly**

During the year 1981, the UN General Assembly initiated a number of measures to check nuclear weapons, chemical weapons as well as to promote the disarmament. It called for,

1. Cessation of explosion of nuclear weapons including underground nuclear weapons test and called for conclusion of comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty,
2. Negotiations for cessation of nuclear arms race and prevention of nuclear war,
3. Freeze on nuclear weapons by nuclear weapon states,
4. Establishment of nuclear weapon freezes in Middle East and south Asia and implementation of declaration of Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

### **New International Economic Order**

There has been a clear gap between the developed and developing countries of the world. The less developed countries are making continuous demands for introducing fundamental reforms in the international system. The developing countries raised the question of establishing New International Economic Order (NIEO) and demanded restructuring of international economic relations on just democratic principles on the basis of full equality.

On May 1974, the UN General Assembly in the face of opposition from United States and other western powers adopted the declaration on the establishment of a New International Economic Order (NIEO). It is regarded as a turning point in the evolution of the international community. NIEO is based on “equity common interest and cooperation among all states”. It also aims at equality and justice, economic and social development and peace and justice for present and future generation. But the present international economic order is found to be a totally biased. Critics of the present global order argue that the order is favoring the rich countries. So there has been over dependence of south on the north. Advanced countries always benefit from international trade, international finance and technological flows. In such a situation it is necessary for introducing fundamental reforms in the area of international trade, aid, international monetary system transfer of technology and foreign investment. New International economic order aims at these reforms.

### **Objectives of New International Economic Order (NIEO)**

New International economic order aims at social justice among the trading countries of the world. It focuses on the benefits of less developed countries. It proposes a “world without borders”. NIEO suggests equitable allocation of world’s resources through distribution of resources from the rich countries to the poor countries. It aims to provide an opportunity for poor nations in decision making process in international affairs. It also aims at the establishment of a new international currency...The crucial aim of the NIEO is to promote economic development among the poor countries through self - help and south – south cooperation.

### **Programme and Action for the NIEO**

The NIEO is not in favour of the existing system of free market orientation. It proposes an action programme for rapid economic development of the poor countries. It also contains that aid has to be in a multilateral form with a view to facilitate structural adjustments in the less developed countries. NIEO give much importance to the need for restructuring the international monetary system. NIEO implemented new programmes and negotiations in favour of poor countries. But there has been always a great opposition from the rich countries to implement this programme. The 1990’s is characterized by liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation. WTO is giving a new mode to form a newer global economic order. Multinational companies became powerful actors in the scenario. New challenges and new problems have been emerging. In the light of this, it seems quite improbable at present that the new international Economic Order would be feasible in near future unless there is change of heart in the developed capitalistic counties.



### **Enforcement of Human Right: an analysis**

Even before the end of the Second World War the Allied powers expressed the hope that after the victory in the war, efforts would be made for the protection of human rights in every state. The Dumbarton Oaks Conference of 1944, the emphasis was laid on the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedom. The representatives gathered at the Sanfrancisco Conference demanded that the declaration of human rights should be included in the UN charter.

The preamble of the UN charter declared that one of the chief aims of the organization is to reaffirm faith in fundamental human right in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of the nations large and small. Article one of the UN charter states that one of the principle purposes of the UN is to achieve international co operation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all. Article 55 provides that the UN shall promote ‘universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as race, sex, language, or religion’. Article 68 required the Economic and Social Council to set up commission in economic and social fields and for the promotion of human rights and this basis, the council may make recommendations for the purpose of promoting respect for and observance of human rights.

### **Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)**

Since the General Assembly of the United Nations proclaimed its universal declaration of human rights on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1948, the concept of human rights has became one of the most important theme in contemporary politics. This declaration is the first international definition of the rights of man. The UN declaration of human rights contains 30 Articles including the preamble. The preamble stresses the dignity and worth of the human person. The universal declaration of human rights is a historic event of the great importance of mankind. It is an international ‘Magnacarta’ of all men everywhere. The United Nations not only made a declaration of human rights but it also took steps to ensure that they are effectively implemented by the states. With this view, the General Assembly in 1951 requested the commission on human rights to prepare drafts of two covenants, one on civil and political rights and the other economic, social and cultural rights.

The universal declaration and the two covenants together known as the international bill of rights constitute the core of international human rights law. By the year 2010 each covenant had been ratified by more than 80% of the 193 UN states. The UN adopted the convention on the elimination of discrimination against women in 1979, the convention against torture in 1984 and the convention on the rights of the child in 1989. Working group on arbitrary detention was set up in 1991, special procedures have been introduced for human rights and extreme poverty (1998), structural adjustment and foreign debt (2000), and for the right to education (1998), food (2000) housing (2000) and health (2002).

The end of the cold war brought some immediate human rights improvements. The new world order produced complex human rights patterns. Both the General Assembly and the commission on human rights became more active. UN's positive outcome can be seen in the field of human rights. However it is very difficult to evaluate the success of the UN human rights project precisely. Its achievements have clearly been limited, but it may be that the combined effect of UN agencies, governmental policies and NGO has improved human rights situations in many countries.

### **UN Mechanism for Human Rights**

The promotion and protection of human rights has been a major activity for the United Nations since 1945. UN has developed a wide network of human rights instruments and mechanisms to ensure the protection of human rights. The General Assembly is the main deliberative body of the United Nations. The General Assembly allocates items relating to human rights issues to its Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs Committee, commonly called as the "Third Committee". The Committee focuses on the examination of human rights questions, including reports of the Human Rights Council. The Committee also discusses the advancement of women, the protection of children, indigenous issues, and the treatment of refugees, the promotion of fundamental freedoms through the elimination of racism and racial discrimination, and the right to self-determination. The Committee addresses issues related to youth, family, ageing, persons with disabilities, crime prevention, criminal justice, and international drug control. The Economic and Social Council, makes recommendations to the General Assembly on human rights matters, and reviews reports and resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and transmits them to the General Assembly. The Economic and Social Council established the following bodies to address human right issues

1. Human Rights Council,
2. Commission on the Status of Women and
3. Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

The Human Rights Council is the main policy-making body dealing with human rights issues. It was established in 2006. It replaced the former United Nations Commission on Human Rights. The Council is made of 47 Member States, which are elected by the majority of members of the General Assembly of the UN. The Council's Membership is based on equitable geographical distribution. Members of the Council serve for a period of three years and are not eligible for immediate re-election after serving two consecutive terms.

The council prepares studies, makes recommendations and drafts international human rights conventions and declarations. It also investigates allegations of human rights violations. The Council has established a number of subsidiary bodies, including the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. The Sub-Commission undertakes studies and makes recommendations to the Commission concerning

the prevention of discrimination against racial, religious and linguistic minorities. The Sub-Commission has set up working groups and established Special Rapporteurs to assist it. The Human Rights Council is an inter-governmental body within the United Nations system responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe and for addressing situations of human rights violations and make recommendations on them.

The Commission on the Status of Women, composed of 32 members, the commission prepares recommendations and reports to the Economic and Social Council on the promotion of women's rights in political, economic, social and educational fields. It makes recommendations to the Council on problems requiring attention in the field of women's rights.

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, composed of 40 members, it is the main United Nations policy-making body on criminal justice. It develops and monitors the United Nations programme on crime prevention.

### **UN strategies to promote Human Rights**

To enhance respect for fundamental human rights and to further progress towards their realization, the UN adopted a three-pronged approach: (a) establishment of international standards, (b) protection of human rights, and (c) United Nations technical assistance.

International Human Rights standards were developed to protect people's human rights against violations by individuals, groups or nations. the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), the Declaration on the Right to Development (1986) and the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (1992) are some international human right standards. Many countries have incorporated the provisions of these declarations into their laws and constitutions.

The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights are legally binding human rights agreements. Both were adopted in 1966, making many of the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights effectively binding. The other Conventions include Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (1951), International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination ( 1969), Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1981), Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1987), Convention on the Rights of the Child (1990) and International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (1990).

To monitor the implementation of treaty obligations treaty bodies were established. The treaty bodies examine reports of States parties. Each year they engage in dialogue with national Governments and issue concluding observations and offer suggestions and recommendations for improvement. There are ten human rights treaty bodies.

## **United Nations advisory services**

The United Nations advisory services programme began in 1955, providing institution-building assistance and other services to Member States. In 1987, the Secretary-General established the Voluntary Fund for Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the field of Human Rights. The technical assistance is usually offered in the following areas:

1. Reforming national laws: Incorporation of international human rights norms into national laws and constitutions is a key element in the protection of human rights. Assistance in drafting new constitutions and laws in line with human rights conventions has been provided to, to many states including Bulgaria, Malawi and Mongolia.
2. Supporting democratization and advising on electoral procedures: Assistance has been provided to several nations on holding elections and setting up national human rights institutions. The Centre for Human Rights advised several countries, including Romania and Lesotho, on the legal and technical aspects of democratic elections.
3. Assisting in the drafting of national laws and preparation of national reports
4. Strengthening national and regional institutions
5. Training criminal justice personnel in the field of human rights.
6. Good offices of the Secretary-General -The Secretary-General use his "good offices" to raise human rights concerns with Member States, including issues such as the release of prisoners and commutation of death sentences. Results of such communications are reported to the Security Council.

In 1993 General Assembly established a post of High Commissioner for Human Rights The High Commissioner carries out the "good offices" function in the field of human rights on behalf of the Secretary-General and is therefore now the United Nations official with principal responsibility for human rights activities. He is responsible for promoting and protecting human rights for all and maintains a continuing dialogue with Member States. The Centre for Human Rights in Geneva, implements the policies proposed by the High Commissioner.

## **International Human Rights Courts and Tribunals**

International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY): In 1993, the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) was established by the United Nations in response to mass atrocities then taking place in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The ICTY was the first war crimes court created by the UN and the first international war crimes tribunal since the Nuremberg and Tokyo tribunals. The key objective of the ICTY is to try those individuals most responsible for crimes listed in the Tribunal's Statute. By bringing perpetrators to trial, the ICTY aims to deter future crimes and render justice to thousands of victims and their families, thus contributing to peace in the former Yugoslavia. Situated in Hague, the ICTY has charged over 160 persons. Those indicted by the ICTY include heads of state, prime ministers, and army chiefs-of-staff.

International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR): The Security Council created the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) in 1994. The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda was established for the prosecution of persons responsible for genocide and other serious violations of international humanitarian law committed in the territory of Rwanda. It also deal with the prosecution of Rwandan citizens responsible for genocide and other such violations of international law committed in the territory of neighboring States during the same period.

Special Court for Sierra Leone. : The Special Court for Sierra Leone was set up jointly by the Government of Sierra Leone and the United Nations. The tribunal was established following a request by the government of Lebanon to the United Nations. It is an independent, judicial organization composed of Lebanese and international judges. The tribunal is also the first of its kind to deal with terrorism as a discrete crime.

### **Revision of the UN charter and democratization of Security Council**

The United Nations Organization contributed a lot in establishing a peaceful world. It effectively intervened in many conflict situations. Through its specialized agencies UN addressed the issues of human development and promotion of human rights. However there was vehement criticism on the working of the UN system. The foremost criticism was targeted against the Security Council. It was argued that the UN Security Council represented the Second World War power structure of the world. The small powers were given no attention. The UN has also been accused of bureaucratic inefficiency and waste. Thus there were continuous demands for the UN system. During the 1990s, the United States withheld its dues to the UN on grounds of inefficiency. Later they restored payment on the condition that a major reforms initiative will be introduced in the UN system.

An official UN reform programme was begun by then- UN Secretary General Kofi Annan in 1997. The proposal was to change the power structure of the Security Council and to make the bureaucracy more transparent, accountable and efficient. In 2005, Kofi Annan published a proposal for UN reforms titled 'Larger Freedom'. The report stressed the need for urgent reforms in the UN. This was followed by a World Summit to discuss the renewal of the UN priorities to make it better equipped at facing 21st century issues. The summit proposals include: the creation of a Peace building Commission, to help countries emerging from conflict; a Human Rights Council and a democracy fund.

A major focus of the UN reforms is the democratization of the Security Council. The proposals demanded enlargement of the council. It was suggested that more states should be admitted to the council. Many states demands restructuring the power equations in the Security Council by accommodating more permanent members in the council. The developing and underdeveloped world raised claims for membership in Security Council. For example, emerging economies like India and Brazil strongly demand a berth in the Security Council with veto power. At the same time many others argue for the abolition of the veto system itself. The demands are still debated and the reforms are yet to be finalized. However all the member states are agreeing on the necessity of reforms. There is also a universal demand for renewal of UN priorities and democratization of Security Council.