

PEACE AND SECURITY THROUGH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

12

Mankind has suffered a long chain of miseries like war, terrorist activities, natural calamities, climate change, epidemics, depletion of (natural) resources and so on. These are not confined to an individual, a community or a nation alone. Don't these pose a threat to peaceful life and security of the whole of human beings across the globe? These problems cannot be solved by one country alone.

Collective global decisions and actions are required to tackle the above noticed problems. Formal associations of nations and nongovernmental informal organizations are working toward this end.



States (and) or governments come together to form official (formal) international intergovernmental organizations. The United Nations Organization, European Union, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) are such international inter-governmental organizations. Activities of these organizations encourage friendship, co-operation and unity between the member states and strengthen their relationship/s.

Non-governmental organizations are formed in areas of environmental issues, sustainable development, human rights etc. They have regional, national and international domains of activities. The International grouping together of such organizations is known as international non-governmental organizations.

Both these type of organizations work towards world peace and security.

The advancement in science and technology enhances comforts of life of human beings, but also poses threats to the very survival of mankind. Threats against peace and security and efforts to solve them along with organizational activities will further strengthen world peace.

The Congress of Vienna (1815) marked the beginning of formal organizations at the international level. France, Britain, Austria etc., participated in this Congress. This Congress encouraged the states to solve common problems and disputes through diplomatic means. Official organizations like Universal Postal Union, International Telegraph Union were formed in 1860.

League of Nations

League of Nations emerged through the Treaty of Versailles (1920) which was meant for ending the 1st World War. This international organization had 42 states as members. League was founded to promote peace and security among states along with ensuring the right of self determination of states. It aimed at designing a security system based on collective efforts, stressing the norm, 'all for each and each for all'. League urged states to consider an attack against one state as an attack against all the states. Protecting the health of the world population safe guarding the interests of the workers of the world were also the objectives of the League.



- *Prepare a note on the circumstances that led to the collapse of League of Nations. Present it in the class and hold a discussion.*
- *Why did League of Nations created for preserving world peace show concern for the health of people of the world and interests of workers?*
- *Can the avoidance of war alone ensure the security of mankind? Discuss.*

League of Nations was formed to wipe out the phenomenon of war. It was not able to attain the aim. Not only did it failed to prevent the out break of war but it also helplessly witnessed the most devastating

of wars ever fought and the consequent destructions and miseries. The unceasing efforts to form a more effective organization to promote collective security and peace resulted in the birth of the United Nations Organization (in 1945). The League of Nations was formally dissolved in 1946. Functioning of the United Nations is a continuum of the objectives of the League of Nations.

United Nations Organization

United Nations was formed in a global situation that longed for transformation of the human mind to a state of calm and peace



UN Head Quarters

from the frightening memories of war. It is the dream and aspiration of the conscience of the world for a representative body. It was

formed as the one organisation which will represent the whole of mankind and will preserve peace and security.

Objectives of the United Nations

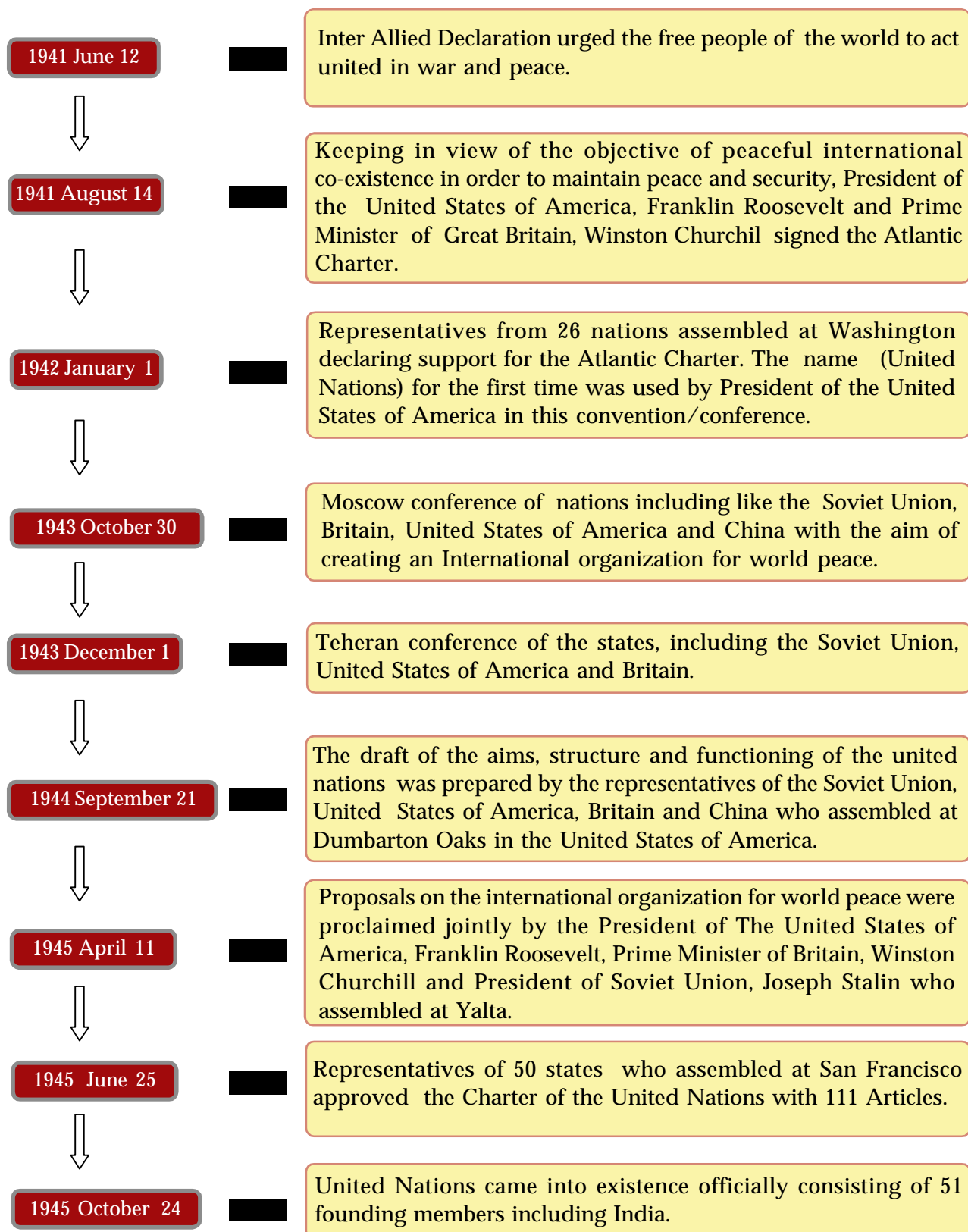
- Protect the future generation from the fear of war.
- Ensure human rights and protect the rights of nations, small and large alike.
- Create circumstances that respect international laws and agreements that aim at social progress and higher standards of life.
- Promote relationship based on tolerance and peace between neighbouring states.
- To cooperate for world peace and security.
- To ensure not to use military forces for purposes other than welfare of the whole mankind.
- To make use of international arrangements only for the economic and social progress of mankind.

Attempts to form the United Nations were made during the period of II world war itself. This aimed at promoting the prosperity and welfare of all people of all the nations, without considerations of size (small or big) and status (poor or rich). In addition to the aim of eradicating war situations it also sought to solve, through collective efforts, common problems that affect society in areas like education, human rights, health, poverty, employment, science and technology, environment etc.

- Which states played prominent role in the formation of the United Nations?
- Who were the important political leaders participated?

The organization takes shape

The United Nations was formed after prolonged and detailed thinking and discussions. Observe the course of development of the formation of organization of the United Nations.



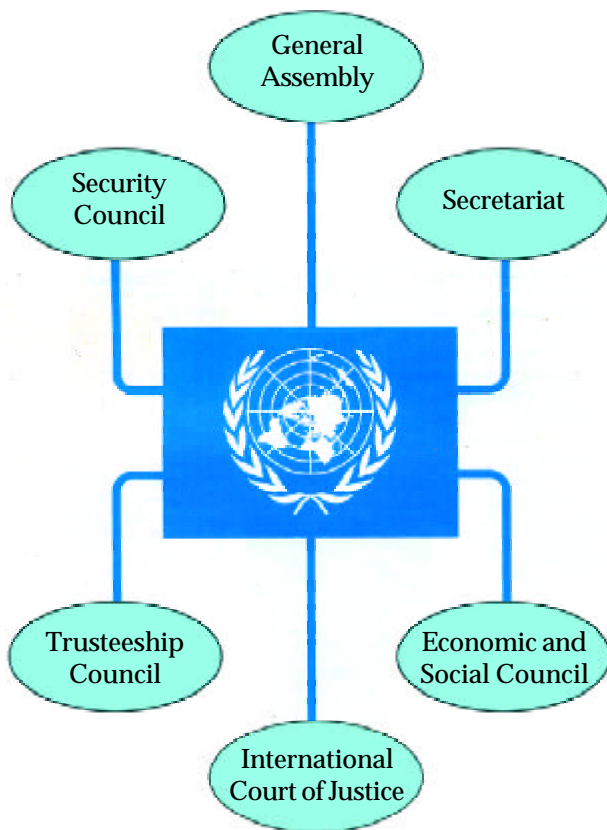
Find out

- How many member states are there now in the United Nations?
- Which state last joined the United Nations as a member?
- Name the states that are not members of the United Nations.

The structure of the United Nations

The General Assembly

United Nations General assembly is known as parliament of Nations. It has to assemble at least once in a year. Every/each member



state can send a team of 5 representatives, but in the proceedings of the Assembly a member state can cast only one vote. During each session the assembly elects a president and a vice president.



U.N. Genreal Assembly

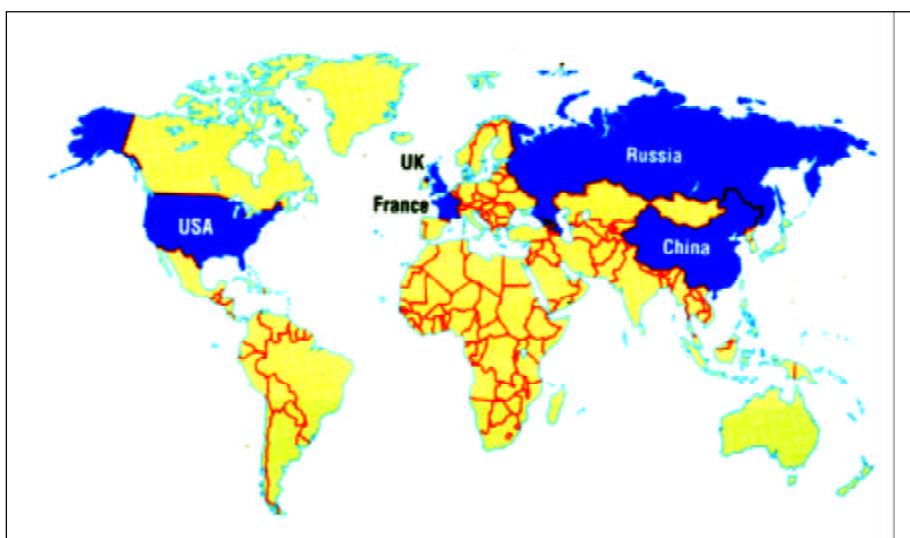
Has any Indian ever been elected to the position of President of United Nations General Assembly?

The Security Council

The power to take policy decisions in matters relating to maintenance of international peace and security is vested with the Security Council. Its Head quarters is in New york. The Security Council composed of 15 members have 10 non - permanent and 5 permanent members. The Permanent members of the council are China, Britain, France, Russia and the United States of America. Non-permanent members are elected for a period of 2 years by the General Assembly. India was elected in 2010 as non-permanent member of the security council. Election of non permanent member/s is with a 2/3 majority in the General Assembly. Permanent members can exercise veto power on policy decisions.

Veto Power

Decisions of the Security Council require support of all the permanent members. The power to oppose a decision and Cast vote against the decision is veto power. Veto power by a permanent member will render a decision invalid.



Permanent member states of Security council

Prepare a note by examining the map and the questions.



Is it compatible with democratic spirit to treat a few states only as permanent members?

The people of which continents remain unrepresented in the list of permanent members of the security council?

The Secretariat

Secretariat has the responsibility to carry out routine administrative functions of the United Nations. Its head quarters is in New York. Secretariat implements the decisions of the General Assembly, the Security Council and other organs of the United Nations as routine administrative work. The General Assembly elects the secretary General for a period of four (04) years with approval of the security council.

- Find out those who were elected as Secretary General of the United Nations. Prepare a table of their name/s, country and year of election as Secretary General.

Economic and Social Council - ECOSOC

This organ of the United Nations coordinates the activities that come under the UN such as health, employment, human rights etc. The Economic and Social Council that has 54 members work under the control of the UN General Assembly. Head Quarters is in New York.

Trusteeship Council

The trust properties that were under the control of the League of Nations after its dissolution came under the UN. They are trust properties. Trusteeship Council has the duty of control, supervision and

UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon



preparation of the trust territories for self-government. The five permanent members of the Security Council are the members of the Trusteeship Council now. The last territory prepared for self-government by Trusteeship Council is the Pacific island 'Palau'. The Head Quarters of Trusteeship Council is in New York. This organ of the UN is under suspended animation from 1st November 1994.

International Court of Justice

The International Court of Justice with Head quarters at The Hague, Netherlands has 15 judges. Judges are elected for a period of 9 years by the General Assembly and the Security Council. Disputes between states

that are brought before the Court can be decided by this Court. It also has power to provide advice to the organs and agencies of the UN when they so ask for.

- Collect information regarding the intervention by the International Court of Justice in any one of the disputes between member states.

In addition to the organs we have already discussed 18 other agencies function under the United Nations towards the welfare and security of the world. They are known as Specialized Agencies. Below given in the table are the details of some important agencies.

Specialized agencies of UN			
Name of Organisation	Year of establishment	Head Quarter	Functions
Food and Agricultural Organisation-FAO	1945	Rome	To work for the progress of agricultural sector, to provide food assistance to member states in emergency situations and during calamities
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation-UNESCO	1946	Paris	To provide directions and help to member states for progress in the fields of education, Culture and Science.
World Health Organisation-WHO	1946	Geneva	To ensure health of the people of member states, to prevent epidemics and fatal diseases and to strengthen research in such areas.
International Monetary Fund-IMF	1945	Washington DC	To design activities and programmes that will provide stability to world economic order. To Intervene in the complexities of the economic order.
World Bank	1944	Washington DC	To facilitate financial and technical assistance to developing countries.
International Labour Organisation-ILO)	1946	Geneva	To provide direction in matters relating to Protection of employment, standards of work and hours of work
International Atomic Energy Agency-IAEA	1957	Vienna	To coordinate and supervise functions relating to the generation, consumption and development of atomic energy in the member states.

We have understood that the United Nations takes care and intervenes in areas of economic growth, progress and action plans in the health sector of member states. Member countries that require help and protection in the above areas are assisted by the United Nations. The UN has planned and implemented 14 programmes and provided funds toward this end. Important among these are United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF),

Society. The uncontrolled human interference in nature causes wide spread destructions of the environment. The economic, industrial and military activities of advanced states like United States of America cause gigantic environmental problems. Ecocide is caused by plastic waste, waste and effluents from industrial, biological, atomic and electronic products and uncontrolled emission of Green House Gases. Huge calamity and injury of this fall upon the developing nations.



Discuss

- Which are the domains of functions of UN through specialized agencies and development Programmes?
- How does the UN attempt to intervene and suggest solutions to the basic problems of member States?
- Peace is not merely the absence of war, it is also the peace and progress of human kind.
- Evaluate this statement in the light of functions of UN

Inter Governmental Panel on Climate Change

The UN attaches much importance to functions meant for solving problems relating to changes in climate conditions. In 1988 an International forum of governments was formed for studying changes in climate conditions and their consequences on the

Global commons

There are many things in the earth and environment that fall beyond the sovereign control of states. They are treated as global commons. The important among these are the international high seas, seabed, outer space and the Antarctica. Severe threat is caused to the global commons due to waste dumping by states.

Environmental pollution is an issue that requires solutions through political decision by states of the world. Hence the International organization of governments on climate change and its functions are very important. Nobel peace prize for 2007 was given to this organization. Dr. Suresh Pachouri, the Indian environmental scientist works in link with this organization. The world commission for environmental protection and development appointed in 1987, popularly known as Brundtland Commission observed thus; 'The earth is one, but the world is not'.

A situation helpful for the sustenance to all living creatures of the earth should exist, and all human beings should be able to live without discrimination. The United Nations observed 2010 as the year of bio-diversity

with the aim of protecting all living creatures. We are able to live because the bygone generation preserved the earth and

the resources therein for us. And we have a responsibility to handover the same, without destruction, to the posterity.



What can we do to reduce the use of plastic products and to control emission of green house gases that destroy the environment?

World Trade Organisation

Many goods that are produced abroad are readily available in our market. How do these reach our country? Are there any regulations to this? Regulation of commerce between member states is by the World Trade Organisation. The 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. Prolonged negotiations were conducted from 1947, year of GATT formation, to 1994, the end of GATT, The Uruguay round of 1994 ended the GATT negotiations. The world Trade Organisation was formed at Geneva in 1995. WTO performs the duties aimed at solving the trade dispute between states and attaining of higher growth for world trade.



Find out five foreign goods available in our market and locate the nations where these are produced. Find out and list them.

Efforts for peace and interventions by United Nations Organisation

For the purposes of encouraging friendship between states and for maintaining international peace and security United Nations intervene in disputes between nations of the world. Interventions by United Nations are by way of peace missions, diplomatic methods and peace keeping force. Peace keeping force will be composed of armed forces of member states of United Nations. Armed forces of member states including India are part of the peace keeping force deployed in Congo now. So far 64 such interventions have been made by UN peace keeping force. Observe the

world map given below and find out examples for intervention in specified areas by UN peace keeping force.

WTO Head Quarters



- Look at the World map and findout specified areas of intervention by the UN peace keeping force



United Nations Organisation intervenes in areas like refugee settlement, relief work and in works for protection of environment. In 2005 Peace Building Commission (PBC) under the UN was set up to ensure peace, development and progress of areas where conflicts exist at the global level.

Terrorism is something faced by the present world with fear and caution.

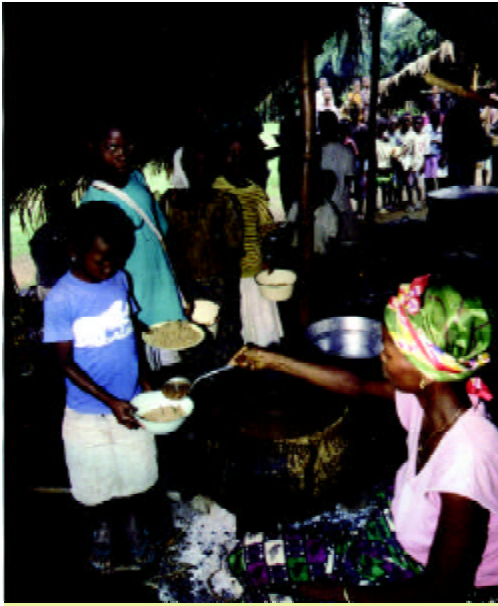
In 2006 the UN created the Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force for antiterrorist activities. It has the purpose of providing leadership to functions for preventing terrorism world over.

The United Nations has made many interventions relating to environment. Instances for this can be cited by referring activities like Green Fest held in Australia, Cultural Fest at Oslo against global warming in 2007 and Art Fest at Brussels in 2007 under the guidance of United Nations Environment Programme. An assessment of the achievement of United Nation will reveal that it is not a military establishment. It is to be remembered that the UN is a world public forum that works for security of humankind by stressing on social and economic progress, peace and sustainable development.

Waiting for food : View of a refugee camp



Some examples for the intervention of the UN Peace Keeping Force



UN distribute food in refugee camp in Liberia



UN Medical mission in Congo

United Nations : Limitations

The United Nations organization has to shoulder new challenges in the process of keeping peace and security in addition to resolving disputes between member states. Security challenges of the new period include racial and ethnic conflicts, terrorist activities, climate changes and sustainable development. Traditional or conventional measures of peace maintenance are inadequate to meet newer challenges. Thus new peace programme are required. Increased financial expenses, military related technology attainments and modernization are also required in emerging situations. The United Nations

has many in built limitations due to the absence of efficient officialdom, shortage of financial recourses, expensive bureaucratic administration and member states failing to contribute their financial share to the UN treasury.

The UN has to work in conformity with the interest of developed Western nations who are the main providers of finance to the UN. Continuing conflicts between the developed and developing nations are also emerging. The developed states demand that there shall be more of contributions from the side of developing societies who are more in number in the UN. All these challenges are faced by the UN.



Discuss

What are the drawbacks in the organization of the UN?

What are the suggestions to make UN more democratic and to overcome its limitations?

Non-aligned movement (NAM)

In the earlier chapter, "The Second World War and the collapse of colonialism". We learned about the post Second World War scenario characterized by a bipolar world and the Cold War. We also learned that the post Second World War period witnessed the emergence of two opposing power blocks led by the Soviet Union and the United States of America. It involved competition, both of ideas and armaments. The world then still not free from the shock of the Second World War, had to live in this frightening atmosphere, expecting another war.

This period witnessed the birth of new independent sovereign states in Asia, Africa

and South America which had been colonies of European powers till then. These newly independent states opted to keep away from the American-Soviet competition, giving more importance to domestic development and world peace. This idea led to the origin of the Non-Aligned Movement. We already know about the international conferences that led to the formation of the Non-Aligned Movement and the architects of this movement.

The Non-Aligned Movement permits member states to adopt an independent stand in international relations and to follow a foreign policy based on peace and cooperation. It denounces all kinds of discrimination based on colour and race.



Find out

- Which nation holds the office of the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement now?
- Discuss the relevance of the Non-Aligned Movement in a period marked by the end of bipolarity, and when climate change, terrorism and globalization have become international issues.

International Inter Government Organisations

There are different kinds of relations between states. They cooperate in areas like science, technology, culture, commerce, trade etc. Organizations formed for strengthening such relations are international intergovernment organizations. United Nations Organization, Non-Aligned Movement etc are also international intergovernment organizations. The table below furnishes details of some other important organizations.

International Non Governmental Organisations

You might have noticed certain individuals and associations around us responding to and interfering in issues relating to human rights, environment etc. Silent Valley protection committee, Periyar protection committee and the agitation at Plachimada are examples.

Nongovernmental Organizations are movements that originate and work at regional and national levels under the initiative of individuals and groups. They focus on protection of human rights, environment, peace, development of cordial social relations, preserving the rights of local

Organization	Year of establishment	Member States	Aims
Arab League	1945	Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait and other 18 nations	To promote unity and mutual cooperation of Arab nations
Organisation of American States (OAS)	1948	31 Nations. Peru, Chile, Honduras, Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, etc.	To promote cooperation in areas such as economic development, protection of environment and protection of human rights among states of South America.
Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)	1960	Iran, Iraq, Venezuela, Libya, UAE etc.	To protect the economic and political interests of nations that produce petroleum.
Organisation of African Unity(OAU)	1963	32 nations. Zimbabwe, Namibia, Tanzania, South Africa etc.	To encourage multilevel diplomatic relations and unity among newly independent states of Africa from colonial rule.
Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)	1967	Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Singapore, Myanmar, Vietnam	To declare the region a free trade zone, to develop high economic and trade relations in the region.
South Asian Association for Regional cooperation (SAARC)	1985	India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Srilanka, Bhutan, Nepal, Maldives, Afghanistan.	To strengthen trade and cultural relations among member states. To promote friendship among nations of South Asia.
North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)	1992	USA, Canada, Mexico	To facilitate free flow of goods and services among member states and to remove trade barriers between member states.
European Union	1993	Britain, France, Germany, Sweden, Spain, Belgium etc.	To adopt common approach in areas like foreign policy, human rights etc. To frame common laws in financial transactions, common currency, Common Market etc.

people on natural resources, protection of habitat and resources and so on. Such organizations work either in cooperation with government or otherwise. At times functions of these organizations expand beyond the boundaries of state and become international associations. International nongovernmental organizations are unofficial organizations. International Inter government organizations are official organizations. Some of the important International nongovernmental organizations can be just examined.

Green peace

This organisation also known as 'Environmental Commandos' Started functioning in 1960, Green Peace functions towards the protection of habitat and ecology and the prevention of pollution of oceans, rivers, and atmosphere.

LOBAYAN

This movement was originated in India to champion the cause of protecting trees and vegetations. Its functions have expanded to Europe too.

Chipko movement

Chipko movement was started to protect the trees and plants of the Himalayas. This was under the leadership of Sri.Sunder Lal Bahuguna.

Amnesty International

This organization provides emergency assistance to areas that are afflicted by wars, natural calamities and uncontrolled epidemics. They try to create situations conducive for solving issues in areas confronted with racial riots and violations of human rights.

Inter National Committee of REDCROSS

There are more than 100 Red Cross societies world over. This organization provides help and solace to areas affected by war and natural calamities. Nobel peace prize for the years 1914 and 1963 were awarded to this organization.

Green belt movement

This movement was inaugurated by the environment protection activist of Kenya, Mrs.Wangari Matthai. This movement working toward the protection of earth and trees, planted 80 lakh trees by organizing women.

International Cricket Council, Federation of International Foot ball Association are also international intergovernment organizations.

- Discuss how far the functions of these organizations are helpful for peace and security?
- Do any of these above organizations or associates of such organizations work in your area or educational institution? What are their activities?

World Social Forum

The World Social Forum first assembled in 2001, in Brazil with the purpose of creating a world order capable of opposing the consequences of globalization. This movement aims at a new world order devoid of discrimination based on race, colour and gender. The movement believes that democracy can be reinvented by ensuring economic, social and political equality. The 10th conference of the world social forum was held at Porto Alegre in Brazil, in January, 2010.

Summits and Conferences

It is through global Summits and conferences that United Nations frames policies and programmes and implements them for peace and security. The heads of

states, high officials and diplomats participate in summits and conferences. The table below provides understanding about some important summits.



UN Conference on climate change August 2010

Summits/Conferences	Place	Year	Areas of Concern
Earth Summit	Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)	1992	Protection of environment, change in climate by global warming to be treated as common problems of mankind; The control of emission of green house gases from industry, agriculture, automobile and domestic sources.
Kyoto Protocol	Kyoto (Japan)	1997	To bring down the emission of green house gases by 2012, 5% below the 1990 level.
World Summit for Sustainable Development	Johannesberg (South Africa)	2002	Environment friendly and socially oriented development, eradication of poverty, Preservation of pure water resources, hygiene and organic farming.
Copenhagen Protocol on climate change	Copenhagen (Denmark)	2009	Reduce the emission of green house gases, reduce the increasing of atmospheric temperature for preventing global warming.

Activity



- What are the factors that threaten peace and security at present?
- Are organizations, associations and interventions able to solve these?
- Discuss and present a Seminar in the Class room.
- Prepare an album by collecting information and pictures of international Summits and Conferences?