



# United Nations

Security Council, Economic and Social Council, Secretariat, and International Court of Justice



# Security Council

- ◆ Primary responsibility to maintain peace and security
- ◆ A representative of each member must be present at all times at the UN Headquarters
- ◆ 15 Council Members
- ◆ Five permanent members:
  - China
  - France
  - Russian Federation
  - United Kingdom
  - United States



"Non Violence"

# Security Council

- ◆ Ten non-permanent members elected by the General Assembly for two year terms
  - Belgium
  - Congo (Republic of the)
  - Ghana
  - Indonesia
  - Italy
  - Panama
  - Peru
  - Qatar
  - Slovakia
  - South Africa
- ◆ Each member has one vote



Japanese Peace Bell

# Security Council

- ◆ In the event of fighting the Council:
  - Tries to secure a ceasefire
  - May send peace keeping mission
  - Impose economic sanctions
  - Order an arms embargo
  - Rare occasions “all means necessary”
- ◆ The Council makes recommendations to the General Assembly on:
  - appointment of Secretary General
  - admission of new Members to the UN

# Economic and Social Council

- ◆ Council has 54 members
  - Elected by the General Assembly
  - Three year terms
- ◆ Serves as central forum for discussing international economic and social issues

# Economic and Social Council

- ◆ This Council is responsible for:
  - Promoting higher standards of living
  - Full employment
  - Economic and social progress
  - Identifying solutions to international economic, social and health problems
  - Facilitating international cultural and educational cooperation
  - Encourage universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms

ECOSOC

# Trusteeship Council

- ◆ Suspended operation 1 Nov, 1994
- ◆ Palau: last remaining UN trust territory
- ◆ Council amended rule to meet annually
- ◆ Meet when required by President, General Assembly, Security Council or a majority of members
- ◆ Established to promote the advancement of developing countries towards self-government or independence.
- ◆ China, France, Russian Federation, UK and US

# Secretariat

- ◆ International staff working in duty stations around the world
- ◆ Carry out diverse day to day work of the UN
- ◆ Survey economic and social trends
- ◆ Prepare studies on human rights and sustainable development
- ◆ Inform the media about work of the UN



# Secretariat

- ◆ Organize international conferences
- ◆ Interpret speeches
- ◆ Translate documents
- ◆ Staff 8,900 under a regular budget from some 170 countries
- ◆ Take oath not to seek or receive instructions from any government

# International Court of Justice

- ◆ Hears cases involving legal disputes among governments
- ◆ Clarifies questions of international law
- ◆ Interprets the UN Charter
- ◆ Composed of 15 judges, elected to office for 9 year terms by UN GA&SC
- ◆ Official languages are English and French

# Specialized Agencies

- ◆ Linked to the UN but remain autonomous (independent)
- ◆ **ILO** – International Labor Organization: improve working conditions and employment agencies
- ◆ **WHO** – World Health Organization: solve health problems, health education, immunizations
- ◆ **The World Bank** – provides loans and economic assistance to nations
- ◆ **WTO** – World Trade Organization: oversees world trade