

Political Science, Class 12, Important Questions, Chapter 6, International Organisations

Question 1.

Which three complaints related to the UN Security Council were reflected in the resolution passed by the UN General Assembly in 1992? Describe any three criteria that have been proposed for new permanent members of the security council.

OR

Describe any six criteria for the new membership of Security Council as suggested after 1997.

Answer:

In 1992, with a view to bring reforms in the UN Security Council, a resolution was adopted by the UN General Assembly.

The resolution was about following three main complaints:

- 1. The security council is not adequately representing the present political realities.**
- 2. Decisions by security council are reflective of Western values and interests and dominance by a few powers.**
- 3. The representation is not on an equitable basis.**

In view of reorganisation, UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan initiated an inquiry into the ways of reformation of UN on 1st January, 1997.

After the years of inquiry, following criteria have been suggested for the permanent and non-permanent members of Security Council.

For criteria,

To be a new member following criteria should be fulfilled:

- It should be a major economic power.**
- It should contribute substantially to the UN budget.**
- Population of the nation should be high.**
- Nation should respect human rights and democracy.**
- The inclusion of that country should make the security council look more vivid in terms of geography, economic systems and culture.**
- It should be a major military power.**

Question 2.

Describe the composition of the UN Security Council. What is the major difference in the privileges given to its permanent and non-permanent members?

Answer:

Composition of the UN Security Council. The Security Council is an important organ of the United Nations Organisation (UNO).

It consists of five permanent members (China, United States of America, United Kingdom, Russia and France) and ten non-permanent members who are elected for a period of two years).

The selection of the permanent members were on the basis of their being powerful immediately after the Second World War and they being the victors in the war.

There is the major difference in the privileges given to the permanent and non-permanent members.

Privileges to Its Permanent and Non-Permanent Members The UN Charter gave the permanent members a privileged position to bring about stability in the world. After the Second World War the main privileges enjoyed by the permanent members are :

1. Permanency
2. Veto power

The non-permanent members are elected only for two years at a time and cannot be re-elected immediately after completing two years. They are elected in a manner so that they represent all continents of the world.

The non-permanent members do not have the veto power. When decisions are taken by security council, voting is done. All members have one vote. But the permanent members can vote in a negative manner so that even if all other permanent and non-permanent members vote for a particular decision, any permanent member's negative vote can stall the decision. This negative vote is the veto.

Question3.

Assess any six steps suggested since 2005 to make the United Nations more relevant in the changing context.

Answer:

The following steps were proposed to make the UN more relevant in the changing scenario :

1. Peace building commission will be created.
2. UN as an international community will accept its responsibility in case off failure of National Government to save their citizens from atrocities.
3. Creation of Human Rights Council (operation since 19th June, 2006)
4. Agreements regarding achievement of millennium development goals.
5. To condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.
6. Democracy fund will be created.

7. Agreement regarding dissolving the trusteeship council.

Question 4.

How far did the UN perform its role successfully in maintaining peace in the world? Explain.

Answer:

The UN performs its role successfully in maintaining peace in the world. This can be justified from the points below :

1. US leaders, in spite of their frequent criticism of the UN, do see the organisation as serving a purpose in bringing together over 190 nations in dealing with conflict and social and economic development.
2. The UN provides an arena in which it is possible to modify US attitudes and policies.
3. Although the rest of the world is rarely united against Washington, and it is virtually impossible to 'balance' US power. However, the UN does provide a space within which argument against specific US attitudes and policies are heard and compromises and concessions can be shaped.
4. The UN is an imperfect body, but without it the world would be worse off. Given the growing connections and links between societies and issues-what we often call interdependence-it is hard to imagine how more than seven billion people would live together without an organisation such as the UN.
5. Technology promises to increase planetary interdependence, and therefore the importance of the UN will only increase.
6. Peoples and governments also find ways of supporting and using the UN and other international organisations in ways that are consistent with their own interests and the interests of the international community more broadly.

Map-Based Question

Question 1.

Study the given map of the world and answer the following question in your answer book.

- (i) Identify and Name the countries marked A, B, C and D respectively.
- (ii) Write the Names of the following UN Secretary Generals with the countries they belonged to:
 - (a) Dag Hammarskjold
 - (b) Kurt Waldheim
 - (c) Boutros Boutros-Ghali
 - (d) Kofi A. Annan



Answer:

(i)

A – Sweden

B – Ghana

C – Austria

D – Egypt

(ii)

(a) Dag Hammarskjold – Sweden

(b) Kurt Waldheim – Austria

(c) Boutros Boutros-Ghali – Egypt

(d) Kofi A. Annan – Ghana