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
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
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-governance 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