



# Other Main Bodies of the UN

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## 1. Secretariat

The Secretariat of the United Nations is headed by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, the former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea.

It does the day-to-day work of the Organisation with its staff about some 8,900 all around the world. The duties of the Secretariat are varied, because they deal with everything around the United Nations. For example the secretariat does studies on human rights, informs the worldwide communications media, organizes international conferences and translates documents and speeches.

It is financed by a regular budget drawn from some 170 countries.

## 2. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

ECOSOC is a principal organ of the United Nations, which coordinates economic, social and related work of the 14 specialized agencies like WHO and WTO, the functional and the regional commissions. It is responsible for:

- promoting higher standards of living, employment and economic and social progress;
- identifying solutions to international economic, social and health problems;
- facilitating international cultural and educational cooperation; and
- encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

ECOSOC consists of 54 members elected by the General Assembly for 3 years. Every year there are elections for 18 seats.

### **3. Trusteeship Council**

The Trusteeship Council was the organ responsible for the administration of the Trust Territories (former German and Japanese colonies). Its aims have been fulfilled with the independence of Palau in 1994. The Trusteeship Council suspended operation on 1 November 1994.

The Trusteeship Council meets as occasion requires. It is in discussion to give the Trusteeship Council the opportunity to be responsible for the administration of failing states, but concerning this topic a decision is not made yet.

### **4. International Court of Justice**

The International Court of Justice is the principal juristic organ of the United Nations and seated in The Hague (Netherlands).

It settles legal disputes what are submitted to it by states and gives advisory opinions on legal questions submitted to it by the UN, its organs, states and Specialized Agencies.

The International Court of Justices consists of 15 judges, who are elected for a 9-year-term by the GA and the SC.

It has the same duties like a regular court, but it can form permanent and temporary chambers. The court knows 3 types of chambers: the Chamber of Summary Procedure, chambers formed on Article 26 I (cases as labour and communications) and chambers formed on Article 26 II (ad hoc chambers).