The Role of U.N. in Understanding Globalization

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INTRODUCTION

Globalization is a process which is perceived and understood differently by researchers of various disciplines. Mainly it is understood in terms of global economic prosperity and better standard of living. It has been seen as a discipline which will influence everybody. Globalization had economic, political, cultural and technological aspects that may be closely intertwined.
Summary

• This presentation will discuss the role of United Nations in understanding the Globalization through its decisions and actions not only in terms of economic globalization which is considered to be number one threat to the sustainability of natural world. The UN Millennium Development Goals which range from halving extreme poverty to ensure sustainable development through developing global partnership- all to achieve by 2015 is a major challenge and requires full commitment of everybody at all levels.
Main UN Events to Discuss

- *Millenium Declaration and MDG’s*
- *The UN World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002 (Rio+10)*
- *World Summit 2005*
- *To address the globalization phenomenon which is not only the solution of several problems rather it is itself a problem.*
There was an earnest debate between Churchill and Roosevelt about whether you've got peace and stability guaranteed through an open international body or whether you got it from a cartel of great powers. And in fact, the UN Charter they hammered out is a compromise between the two. I'm quite convinced that if we don't have some international mechanisms for helping to defuse crisis situations and for helping to advance particular agendas we'd be in a worse shape than we are now -- and we're not in a very good shape, God help us. But I don't buy the "globalist federation of the world" stuff because the independent great powers are not going to go into it. - Paul Kennedy, UN Historian
......for all its faults and failures, the UN is a remarkable existence, historically unprecedented. UN agencies may be inefficient but they kill fewer people than the imperial regimes they replaced. It may not have brought universal democracy, but UN election monitoring has changed the face of many countries. Where the UN succeeds, in El Salvador or Namibia, there are many others to claim credit; where it fails -as is the norm in foreign policy -everyone finds it easy to blame the UN.

-PAUL KENNEDY, UN HISTORIAN, AUTHOR OF THE PARLIAMENT OF MAN
Charter of The United Nations

- WE THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS DETERMINED
- to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and
- to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and
- to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and
- to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,
Charter of the United Nations

- AND FOR THESE ENDS
- To practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours, and
- To unite our strength to maintain international peace and security, and
- To ensure, by the acceptance of principles and the institution of methods, that armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest, and
- To employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,
Charter of the United Nations

- HAVE RESOLVED TO COMBINE OUR EFFORTS TO ACCOMPLISH THESE AIMS

- Accordingly, our respective Governments, through representatives assembled in the city of San Francisco, who have exhibited their full powers found to be in good and due form, have agreed to the present Charter of the United Nations and do hereby establish an international organization to be known as the United Nations.
UNITED NATIONS

United Nations work mainly in the broader area of:

- Peace and Security,
- Economic and Social Development,
- Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs and
- International Law.
What is Globalization

- Globalization is an umbrella term for a complex series of economic, social, technological, and political changes seen as increasing interdependence and interaction between people and companies in disparate locations.

- The phenomenon has been noted since the 1980s in the context of sociological study on a worldwide scale.
“Globalization” as a process

- **Economically and socially positive:** As an engine of commerce: one which brings an increased standard of living-prosperity

- **Economically, Socially and ecologically negative:** As an engine of corporate imperialism: one which temples over the human rights of the developing societies, claims to bring prosperity, yet often simply amounts to plundering and profiteering.

- Negative effects include cultural assimilation via cultural imperialism, the export of artificial wants, and the destruction or inhibition of authentic local and global community, ecology and culture.
International Monetary Funds (IMF) defines

- Globalization as the growing economic interdependence of countries worldwide through increasing volume and variety of cross-border transactions in goods and services, free international capital flows, and more rapid and widespread diffusion of technology.
In summary, all definitions appear to agree that globalization has economic, political, cultural and technological aspects that may be closely intertwined.
Globalization and internationalization

- Many use it as substitute or alternative
- In internationalization, the role of the state and the importance of nations are greater
- While globalization in its complete form eliminates nation states.
- Internationalization never turned into globalization (the European Union and NAFTA are yet to prove their case).
Globalization

- Globalization is an imagined geography; that is political tool of ruling neo-liberalist, who are attempting to use certain images and discourses of world politics to justify their political agendas.
- Britton Woods institutions demand for liberalization under Structural Adjustment programmes for globalization
Globalization- A Holistic Approach

- Globalization should be analyzed on a time frame, historically deep and geographically wide.
- It refers to a much wider and deeper human rendezvous.
- It should be seen in a holistic approach which includes human culture in its diversity also.
UN Role in Globalization

- UN main role in globalization process is that it follows holistic approach and gives enough emphasis on globalization of culture also.
- UN role in peace keeping and peace building, sustainable development, climate change, global warming, prevention of HIV/AIDS, Trade, eradication of poverty, addressing terrorism, nuclear non-proliferation etc.
UN Millennium Development Goals

- Eradicate extreme poverty
- Achieve universal primary education
- Promote gender equality and empower women
- Reduce child mortality
- Improve maternal health
- Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- Ensure environmental sustainability
- Develop a global partnership for development
UN-HABITAT

- UN-HABITAT is responsible for the Goal 7 Target 11 and also for Target 10 of the MDG’s which states “to improve the quality of life of at least 100 million populations in slum.”
In Para 56 (m) resolved that

- “to achieve significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020, recognizing the urgent need for the provision of increased resources for affordable housing and housing-related infrastructure, prioritizing slum prevention and slum upgrading, and to encourage support for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and its Slum Upgrading Facility.”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>% Slum in 1990</th>
<th>% Slum in 2001</th>
<th>% Slum in 2005</th>
<th>Slum Annual Growth</th>
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<td>31.2</td>
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<td>42.7</td>
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The Assembly of Heads of State and Government recognized the valuable role of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the Millennium Summit, in mobilizing the international community at local, national, and regional and global levels and in guiding the work of the United Nations.
The major outcome of the World Summit was to address the threat of terrorism, fight against corruption, promoting democracy, pursuing good governance and creation of Human Right Council, trade liberalization in the global independent world where no state can stand wholly alone. It was acknowledge that collective security depends on effective cooperation, in accordance with the international law, against transnational threats and to attain peace, security, sustainable development and human rights which are interlinked.
Culture

• Acknowledging the diversity of the world, the Summit recognized that all cultures and civilizations contribute to the enrichment of humankind. It acknowledged the importance of respect and understanding of religious and cultural diversity throughout the world and to encouraging tolerance, respect, dialogue and cooperation among different cultures, civilization and peoples.
UN Human Rights

UN believes that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that all human rights must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis.
Terrorism

- The 2005 World Summit took advantage of the presence of the Heads of state and government to hold Security Council meeting and pass a resolution to combat terrorism. UN had now proper definition of terrorism. It is also a new global phenomenon and after 9/11 the whole world is facing the consequences. Recent attempt at Heathrow airport or planting bombs in local train in Bombay is taking life of many innocent people and there is a long of expenses globally on security majors
Terrorism

- The World Summit 2005 strongly condemned terrorism in all forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purpose, as it constitute one of the most serious threat to peace and security. It asked for international cooperation to fight terrorism. It is a global problem and all are affected so nobody should support terrorism. UN role was recognized in combating terrorism and assurance was given by the member states in the Summit to strengthen the capacity of UN for this purpose.
Globalization and Culture

- Diversity of culture is diminishing
- Modernization has been advancing as a steamroller, erasing cultural and biological diversity in its way
- Earlier the differences were based on nationality
- Now the differences are counted on gender and political affiliations, ethnic and religious movements, minority rights, and indigenous peoples.
Globalization of Culture

- McDonaldization
- Cultural mixing or hybridization
Concepts of cultural differences

- Cultural differentialism or lasting difference
- Cultural convergence or growing sameness, and
- Cultural hybridization or ongoing mixing

The United Nations promote the respect for all diversity in nature and culture.
UN World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD)

A decade after the Rio Earth Summit in 1992 which produced Agenda 21, the United Nations World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) was held from 26 August to 4th September 2002 in Johannesburg, South Africa to “seek consensus on the general assessment of current conditions, and for priorities for further action in new areas or issues.”
Three components of Sustainable Development

- Economic development,
- Social development, and
- Environmental protection

As interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars.
Briton Wood institutions

• Simultaneously attempt to pursue only economic globalization, no goals for a healthy planet, or equity and justice for people are remotely achievable.

• Globalization, trade and investment designs and structures reinforce a model of development-centered on free trade, hyper economic growth and export-oriented production—which is inherently unsustainable in ecological and social terms.
The World Trade Organization (WTO) is among the most powerful, and one of the most secretive international bodies on earth. It is rapidly assuming the role of global government, as 134 nation-states, including the U.S., have ceded to its vast authority and powers.
The recent Doha round trade talk wrecked. The Economist issue of that week in July 2006 reported in its article entitled “The Future of Globalization” that the wrecking of the world trade talks was senseless and short-sighted. After all globalization is unstoppable.
The World Summit 2005 committed to support the implementation of this goal of universal access to treatment by 2010 for all those who need it and by enhancing access to affordable medicines and also the reduction of vulnerability of persons affected by HIV/AIDS and other health issues in particular orphaned and vulnerable children and older persons.
Gender Equality and Empowerment of women

- Beijing conference and its outcome as Beijing declaration and Platform for action and outcome of the twenty third special session of the General Assembly promoted gender equality and eliminated pervasive gender discrimination.
The General Assembly on international migration and development will be held in September 2006 and discuss the multidimensional aspects of international migration and will identify appropriate ways and means to maximize their development benefits and minimize their negative impact.

Of the estimated $232 billion that migrants sent home last year, about $170 billion went to developing countries with the growth rate of remittances by 9 percent a year.
UN Democracy Fund

- Democracy is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives.

- India pledged for US$ 10 Million contribution for this fund in 2005.
Measurement of Globalization

The economic barometer continues to show an upwards trend. This signals that the acceleration in GDP growth, measured against the growth rate of the respective quarters of the previous year, is likely to persist at least until the end of the present year. (Current level of the KOF economic barometer: July 2.61, June 2.52, May 2.34. Level a month ago: June 2.50, May 2.34\textsuperscript{1}).

The various modules which make up the multi-sectoral design of the new KOF economic barometer point to the following developments: The core GDP module (overall economy excluding construction sector and banking) shows no letup in the upwards trend. In this conjunction, the latest results of the monthly KOF economic surveys conducted within the industrial and retail sectors confirm the situation recorded last month: while expectations on the industrial side have weakened, the outlook for the retail sector has
Conclusion

The strength of the UN is that it includes everyone within a common tent. Without the all-encompassing infrastructure, capacity for effective international discourse would be crippled. The UN is essential to world peace and security.

U.N. IS YOU
Thankyou