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Oscar



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الذكرى السنوية الخمسون  
لإتشاء الأمم المتحدة

联合国五十周年纪念

Fiftieth Anniversary of  
the United Nations

Cinquantième Anniversaire  
de l'Organisation des  
Nations Unies

Пятидесятая годовщина  
Организации  
Объединенных Наций

Cincuentenario de las  
Naciones Unidas

# The United Nations at 50: Recognizing the Achievements

THE UNITED NATIONS was established in the aftermath of a devastating war to help stabilize international relations and give peace a more secure foundation.

Amid the threat of nuclear war and seemingly endless regional conflicts, peace-keeping has become an overriding concern of the United Nations. In the process, the activities of blue-helmeted peace-keepers have emerged as the most visible role associated with the world organization.

The United Nations, however, is much more than a peacekeeper and forum for conflict resolution. Often without attracting attention, the United Nations and its family of agencies are engaged in a vast array of work that touches every aspect of people's lives around the world.

Child survival and development. Environmental protection. Human rights. Health and medical research. Alleviation of poverty and economic development. Agricultural development and fisheries. Education. Family planning. Emergency and disaster relief. Air and sea travel. Peaceful uses of atomic energy. Labour and workers' rights. The list goes on.

Here, in brief, is a sampling of what the United Nations organizations have accomplished since 1945 when the world organization was founded.

- 1. Maintaining peace and security** – By deploying more than 35 peace-keeping forces and observer missions, the United Nations has been able to restore calm to allow the negotiating process to go forward while saving millions of people from becoming casualties of conflicts. There are presently 16 active peace-keeping forces in operation.
- 2. Making peace** – Since 1945, the United Nations has been credited with negotiating 172 peaceful settlements that have ended regional conflicts. Recent cases include an end to the Iran-Iraq war, the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, and an end to the civil war in El Salvador. The United Nations has used quiet diplomacy to avert imminent wars.
- 3. Promoting democracy** – The United Nations has enabled people in over 45 countries to participate in free and fair elections, including those held in Cambodia, Namibia, El Salvador, Eritrea, Mozambique, Nicaragua and South Africa. It has provided electoral advice, assistance, and monitoring of results.
- 4. Promoting development** – The UN system has devoted more attention and resources to the promotion of the development of human skills and potentials than any other external assistance effort. The system's annual disbursements, including loans and grants, amount to more than \$10 billion. The UN Development Programme (UNDP), in close cooperation with over 170 Member States and other UN agencies, designs and implements projects for agriculture, industry, education, and the environment. It supports more than 5,000 projects with a budget of \$1.3 billion. It is the largest multilateral source of grant development assistance. The World Bank, at the forefront in mobilizing

