

Issue Brief

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U.S.A. Funding of 31 U.N. Entities

by Thomas W. Jacobson, M.A.

The United States funds a total of 37 United Nations entities and programs, at a cost of \$8.26 billion to American taxpayers in 2010. Six of the seven costliest were covered in the November brief, “U.S.A. Funding of U.N. Rises Sharply.” This brief describes the other 31 in alphabetical order – including the highest cost U.N. peacekeeping – with the 2010 U.S.

contribution rank, percent of total budget, and amount given to each one.

The table below lists the six United Nations budget areas covered in the last brief, plus U.N. peacekeeping and the other 30 entities and programs covered in this paper.

| United Nations Entities & Programs | Funding Rank | Budget Percent | 2010 Contribution |
|---|--------------|----------------|------------------------|
| U.N. Regular Budget | U.S.A.: 1 | 22% | \$650,693,000 |
| U.N. Capital Master Plan | U.S.A.: 1 | 22% | \$75,534,800 |
| U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) | U.S.A.: 1 | 19.15% | \$340,671,000 |
| U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees | U.S.A.: 1 | 37% | \$706,879,000 |
| World Food Programme (WFP) | U.S.A.: 1 | 36.3% | \$1,565,157,943 |
| World Health Organization (WHO) | U.S.A.: 1 | 23% | \$386,706,000 |
| Subtotal of above 6 budgets: | | | \$3,725,641,743 |
| U.N. Peacekeeping | | | \$2,845,870,000 |
| Other 30 budgets below | | | \$1,691,823,974 |
| Total 2010 U.S.A. Contributions: | | | \$8,263,335,717 |

Additional 31 U.N. Entities

1. CITES

Rank: (1); U.S.A. percent of budget: [22.6%]
U.S.A. 2010 contribution: \$1,135,359

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) was agreed to by 80 national governments in 1973, “to ensure that international trade specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.” It was the first international agreement to protect thousands of endangered species, like tigers and elephants. CITES came into force in 1975, and now has 175 Party Nations, although Japan, Norway and Iceland exempted certain baleen whales in their ratification. The U.N.

Environmental Program (UNEP) administrates CITES, and the Secretariat is located in Geneva, Switzerland. Each country is responsible to formulate domestic policies to comply with CITES, but many Party Nations have not done so.

The United States ratified CITES in 1974, and made it applicable to the dependent territories of Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the Virgin Islands. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the management authority for the U.S.A. to ensure compliance with CITES.

2. FAO

(1); [25.1%]; \$161,296,000

In 1943, representatives of 44 governments met in the United States, and committed themselves to what became in 1945, the Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO), one of the first U.N. special agencies. Unlike the World Food Programme, the FAO's primary purposes are to develop and share knowledge and technical expertise to achieve global "food security," that is, a stable and sufficient source of good quality food for all peoples. In its quest, FAO also focuses on agriculture, economic and social development, fisheries, forestry, natural resources, and environment, with operations in 130 countries. Its headquarters is in Rome, Italy, and there are currently 191 Member Nations plus the European Union. Consistent with United Nations policies, the FAO devaluates the inherent responsibility of men to work and provide for their families, and is now encouraging women to become full-time farmers, asserting that women are the "key to food security."

3. IAEA

(1); [25.56%]; \$185,460,000

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was created in 1957 to promote "safe, secure and peaceful nuclear technologies" through intergovernmental cooperation. The IAEA, in accordance with non-proliferation treaties, "develops nuclear safety standards," and then verifies compliance through inspections. The

headquarters are in Vienna, Austria. The authority, competency, and effectiveness of this U.N. agency have come into serious question during the debacle with Saddam Hussein and whether Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction, and Iran's continued build-up of weapons grade nuclear capacities.

4. ICAO

(1); [25%]; \$22,782,000

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) was formed in 1944, after the United States organized a conference in Chicago, and 52 nations drafted and signed the Convention on International Civil Aviation. ICAO promotes "the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation throughout the world." It later became a U.N. agency, and now has 191 Member Nations. As Americans are the world's number one travelers, the United States has held a key leadership role in developing this and other multilateral agreements related to international air travel and services.

5. ICTR

(1); [27%]; \$33,607,000

The United Nations Security Council created the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) soon after the 1994 mass genocide of about 1 million in Rwanda. The 24-judge (only 9 from Africa) Tribunal, with 693 staff, is based in Arusha, Tanzania. In 15 years, the Tribunal has completed 69 cases, of which 17 are on appeal, and 10 were acquitted. The cases of 6 more are in progress or awaiting trial, and 9 accused have not been captured.

Far more significant and effective has been the truth, forgiveness, and reconciliation movement in Rwanda, led by Bishop John Rucyahana, whose niece

was brutally raped and murdered. He is chairman of Prison Fellowship Rwanda, overseeing the restorative justice program through which over 30,000 prisoners have been released. They voluntarily return to their communities and face a townhall style hearing, where their accusers can confront them. Then they can request forgiveness and be restored, even though it takes time to heal deep emotional wounds and rebuild trust.

6. IFAD

(1); [7.87%]; \$30,000,000

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) was created in 1977, as a direct result of the 1974 World Food Conference. Its Strategic Framework for 2011-2015 is “Enabling poor rural people to improve their food security and nutrition, raise their incomes and strengthen their resilience”. IFAD is headquartered in Rome, Italy (as is WFP and FAO), has 167 Member Nations, and a staff of 496 from 65 nations. It is unclear why this organization was and remains necessary in addition to the WFP and FAO, and why its purposes were not incorporated into them.

7. ILO

(1); [22.55%]; \$132,486,000

The International Labor Organization (ILO) was “created in 1919, as part of the Treaty of Versailles that ended World War I.” The chairman of the Commission that formed it was Samuel Gompers, then “head of the American Federation of Labour (IFL)”. Of course it is pro-union. Its purpose was to establish social justice by creating regulations and international standards to protect workers, including children, youth, and women. Its headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland, and there are 183 Member Nations. At this point in history, the necessity of such an international organization is questionable.

8. IMO

(11); [3.14%]; \$1,261,000

The International Maritime Organization (IMO), formerly named the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, was established in 1958. The headquarters is in London, United Kingdom, and there are 170 Member Nations. Through the IMO, governments negotiate and develop international navigation standards and regulations. The United States has always negotiated navigational rights directly with governments, but since its creation, also works through the IMO. As stated in the September brief, these two means of protecting navigational rights, and numerous treaties, negate the necessity of the U.N. Law of the Sea Treaty.

9. IOM

(1); [3.24%]; \$419,498,610

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) was formed in 1951 as an inter-governmental organization, working with governments and non-government organizations on migration matters. IOM seeks to ensure “the orderly and humane management of migration” through international cooperation, law and policy guidance, and protection of rights of migrants. It has 146 Member Nations, and its headquarters is in Geneva, with over 7,300 staff. In 1998, it had 1,100 staff and its budget was 83% less. International migration has not increased that substantially in 13 years. It appears that part of the “orderly migration” for 6,200 people was to become IOM employees.

10. ITU

(1 tied); [8.68%]; \$9,361,000

The International Telecommunications Union (ITU) was “founded in Paris in 1865 as the International Telegraph Union,” and became a U.N. agency in 1947. It is one of the most useful organizations, providing “international management of the radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits”, and setting

standards that enable global communications. The ITU is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, and has a “membership of 193 countries and over 700 private-sector entities”. The U.S. has the most private-sector members, including: AT&T, Boeing, CBS, CenturyLink, DirecTV, ITT, Microsoft, and Motorola.

11. ICTY

[20.97%]; \$42,202,000

The International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) was established in 1993 to try Serbs, Bosnians, Croats, and Kosovo Albanians accused of war crimes, genocide, and “crimes against humanity,” in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Tribunal has 12 judges; an Office of the Prosecutor who investigated atrocities; and a jail; all located at The Hague, in The Netherlands. It has indicted 161 persons, including sentencing 64, acquitting 13, and referring 13 to national jurisdiction courts. The most famous was Slobodan Milošević, whose trial stopped when he was found dead in his cell. After 18 years, there are still 18 cases in the trial process, and 17 cases before the Appeals Chamber.

12. IUCN

[2.8%]; \$446,000

The International Union for Cultivation of Nature & Natural Resources (IUCN) is an environmental organization that “works on biodiversity, climate change, energy ... and greening the world economy.” It was formed in 1948, and is headquartered in Gland, Switzerland. The United States is one of 89 Member Nations. But there are also over 1,000 national and international non-governmental organization members, including 78 from the U.S. (e.g., Conservation International, the National Audubon Society, National Wildlife Federation, The National Conservatory, The Pew Charitable Trusts, World Wildlife Fund-US, World Environment Center, zoos, parks, societies, and law organizations).

13. Montreal Protocol

(1); [17%]; \$28,927,541

The Multilateral Fund for Implementation of the Montreal Protocol was formed to fund and implement the 1987 Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, which followed the 1985 Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer. The obvious purpose of the Convention and Protocol is to protect the ozone layer from further depletion. They are “the first treaties in the history of the United Nations to achieve universal ratification,” but not all nations have agreed to the four sets of amendments, added between 1990 and 1999. The “Ozone Secretariat” within the U.N. Environment Programme (UNEP), based in Nairobi, Kenya, administrates the Montreal Protocol Fund. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency represents the U.S. on ozone matters.

14. PAHO

(1); [59.45%]; \$59,811,000

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) was founded in 1902, in Washington, D.C., to “improve health and living standards” within the Americas. It is comprised of all 35 nations in North, Central, and South America, and the Caribbean. France, The Netherlands, and the United Kingdom are “Participating” nations because they have territories in the region. Puerto Rico is an “Associate Member” because the United States is a Member Nation. PAHO developed a close partnership with the World Health Organization after its formation. Tragically, PAHO is collaborating with WHO to promote “sexual rights as human rights” – not confined within marriage, nor limited by age or gender – and the classification of self-identified LGBT individuals as “minorities.” Both agendas are destructive of the moral foundations necessary to preserve freedom, the rule of law, and lawful government.

15. CTBTO

(1); [22.3%]; \$26,918,000

From 1994 to 1996, nations negotiated the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT); 182 countries signed it, and 155 countries ratified it. But it has not entered into force because not enough countries (44) possessing nuclear technology have ratified it (e.g., China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, North Korea, Pakistan, United States). The U.S.A. signed it on 24 September 1996, but has not ratified it. There were “over 2,000 nuclear tests” (about 1,000 by the U.S.) conducted from 1945 to 1996. The purpose of the Treaty is to ban nuclear explosions. It has a “verification regime to make sure no nuclear explosion goes undetected,” and where suspected, permits in-country “on-site inspections”.

Hence, because the Treaty has not come into force, the administration agency is called the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO). The CTBTO is headquartered in Vienna, with 260 staff from 70 nations.

16. RAMSAR

(1); [22%]; \$1,292,000

The RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands was created in 1971 by 18 nations meeting in Ramsar, Iran. The Convention encourages “wise use” of “wetlands,” yet defines them so broadly as to seek “management of all water ecosystems (whether permanent or temporary) that are not deep marine waters.” There are currently 160 “Contracting Parties” (nations). The United States joined in 1987, and has 30 areas on the List of Wetlands of International Importance, known as the “Ramsar List.” But within the U.S., state and national governments, and their environmental agencies and park services, are already deeply committed to protecting wetlands within our country.

17. UNDP

(1); [11.5%]; \$22,315,000

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is a core U.N. agency that focuses on conflict prevention, conflict recovery, disasters and recovery, and gender equality (i.e., U.N. goals of eradicating male-female distinctions, and attaining a 50-50 ratio in all government and leadership positions). Perhaps they should change the word “development.” In 2010, UNDP funded programs in 103 countries. UNDP and UNFPA hold joint board and planning meetings, revealing UNDP’s ardent support for U.N. global population control and sexual rights agendas. As with all U.N. agencies, UNDP tries to do for people what they should do for themselves, thus creating dependency, and reducing individual responsibility and national capacity for self-government.

18. UNESCO

(1); [22%]; \$84,523,000

The U.N. Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is one of the largest U.N. agencies, created to increase “dialogue among civilizations, cultures and peoples,” based on mutual respect, and to contribute toward peace and poverty eradication. “Overarching objectives” include “education for all,” increased scientific knowledge, “gender equality,” and “building inclusive knowledge societies through information and communication.” Thus the information, communications, and educational materials produced by UNESCO are without moral foundations. Indeed, as U.S. Representative Ron Paul said, “UNESCO ... is nothing but a mouthpiece for the usual U.N. causes, including international abortion and population control; (and) politically correct U.N. curriculum for American schools.” UNESCO materials are shaping the minds of countless children all over the world. Its two “global priorities” are Africa and gender equality.

UNESCO is headquartered in Paris, has 193 Member Nations, and a staff of over 2,000 from 170 nations. The U.S. was one of the original Members in 1946, but President Reagan withdrew our nation

in 1984 because of its anti-American views, financial mismanagement, and “hostility to freedom.” President George W. Bush restored U.S. membership in 2003. But in October 2011, UNESCO Members voted “to admit Palestine into the organization as its newest member,” causing the U.S. to immediately cut off funding as required by U.S. law.

19. UNEP

(1); [9.8%]; \$22,957,000

The U.N. Environment Programme (UNEP) is the U.N.’s global environment agency, focusing on six primary areas: environmental governance, climate change, disasters and conflicts, ecosystem management, harmful substances, and resource efficiency. Through regional offices, its focus includes environmental laws, policies, and conventions; trade and industry; biodiversity, etc. The UNEP is an organization that should be eliminated. As stated above, at least 89 national governments have their own environment agencies, and there are over 1,000 non-governmental organizations, including 78 American, that are working on these issues, and are members of the IUCN.

20. UNFCCC

(1); [21.45%]; \$3,389,000

The U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) coordinates numerous international conferences on climate change like the United Nations Climate Change Conference just concluded in Durban. It is also linked to the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. These are the mechanisms by which the U.N. and some Member Nations are seeking to expand global governance of nations; and by which developing nations are eagerly hoping to receive substantial financial payouts from developed nations allegedly responsible for “climate change.” All this even though the long-term scientific evidence on so-called climate change is questionable.

21. UN-HABITAT

(2); [10%]; \$18,055,168

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) was created to build human settlements and provide “adequate shelter for all.” It works to rebuild communities after conflicts and disasters, and incorporates urban planning. In recent years, it has added climate change aspects, with questionable assumptions. A 58-member Governing Council composed of U.N. Member Nations oversees UN-HABITAT.

22. UNODC

(2); [6.49%]; \$35,201,000

The U.N. Office on Drugs & Crime (UNODC) focuses on corruption, crime prevention, criminal justice, drug prevention, HIV/AIDS, human trafficking, money laundering, organized crime, piracy, terrorism prevention, and “wildlife and forest crime.” Some of its efforts seem to be noble, such as the Blue Heart campaign opposing human trafficking, but its effectiveness is unclear. A new \$10.9 million joint project with the Palestinian National Authority is designed to improve the use of forensic methods in investigating crimes, but a deeper need within the PNA is a commitment to the rule of law and justice.

23. U.N. Peacekeeping

(1); [27.3%]; \$2,845,870,000

United Nations Peacekeeping is the largest single budget area of the U.N., and the largest payout of U.S. taxpayer dollars. U.N. Peacekeeping started in 1948, and there are currently 16 operations, mostly in African and Asia. The first issue briefs in 2012 will cover peacekeeping.

24. UNFPA

(3); [10.1%]; \$51,400,000

The U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA) is the most controversial and dishonest U.N. program. It denies that it promotes abortion, but declares that “reproductive rights” include the “right” to determine “the number, timing and spacing of one’s children and the right to have access to the information and means needed to exercise voluntary choice.” In their view, “choice” includes the so-called “right” to terminate “unintended pregnancies” or any pregnancy that does not fit within the “number, timing or spacing” preferences of the mother. Further, the UNFPA is the world’s largest distributor of condoms and contraceptives. “More than 77 per cent of donor support in 2010 (\$235.16 million) was allocated to three types of commodities: male condoms (32 per cent), injectables (24 per cent) and oral contraceptives (21 per cent).” In addition, during the George W. Bush Administration, the State Department reported to Congress, as required by law, UNFPA’s complicity in “coercive abortion and involuntary sterilization” programs, particularly in China. Thus the \$34 million U.S. contribution to UNFPA was withheld, and redirected to international programs that did not facilitate abortion. However, the Obama administration promptly restored and increased funding to the UNFPA.

25. UNRWA

(1); [26.5%]; \$247,872,993

The U.N. Relief Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) “provides assistance, protection and advocacy” for about five million Palestinians in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Israel. Services include education, health care, community support, camp improvement, and emergency response. The U.S. contributes more than five times that of any other individual nation.

26. UNV

(12); [0.4%]; \$472,800

The U.N. Volunteers Programme (UNV) is a global volunteerism program, encouraging and mobilizing about 7,700 people a year to contribute their energy and time to many of the U.N. agencies and programs listed in this brief. In addition UNV organizes volunteers (which may be foreigners) to “run local and national elections,” and support humanitarian projects and peacekeeping operations. Anybody can volunteer from any country.

27. UPU

[5.97%]; \$2,373,000

The Universal Postal Union (UPU) was created by 22 nations in 1874, in Bern, Switzerland, and was originally called the General Postal Union. The Treaty of Bern contained agreed regulations that facilitated the reliable exchange of letters through the postal services of the member countries. Many other nations quickly joined, resulting in the name change to UPU. It became a U.N. special agency in 1948.

28. WCRP

(1); [27.0%]; \$6,000,000

The World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) has two primary objectives: “(1) to determine the predictability of climate; and (2) to determine the effect of human activities on climate.” It was formed in 1980 “under the joint sponsorship of the International Council for Science (ICSU) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO),” and later also by “the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO,” a U.N. agency. The WCRP itself does not conduct the research, but relies on scientists at universities, laboratories, and institutes. It brings together working groups for projects, and organizes committees and international meetings. It has a prominent role in the climate change discussions, particularly within the UNFCCC mentioned above.

29. WIPO

(1 tied); [10.75%]; \$1,139,475

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) was established to implement the 1967 WIPO Convention, “with a mandate from Member States to promote the protection of IP (intellectual property) throughout the world.” However, today WIPO is “dedicated to developing a balanced and accessible international” IP system. That appears far less protective than the original intent. WIPO keeps directories of existing patents, trademarks, copyrights, etc., that are secured through national processes, and then submitted to them. It is headquartered in Geneva, and has 185 Member Nations (so not all nations). The U.S. is a party to at least 15 treaties protecting copyrights and patents, including WIPO, with the first being the Paris Convention, ratified in 1887.

30. WMO

(1); [21.66%]; \$15,092,000

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) started out in 1873 as the International Meteorological Organization (IMO), and in 1950 became the WMO, and then a U.N. agency in 1951. It was created to develop international cooperation in tracking weather and climate conditions, and water hazards, particularly to safeguard human life from natural disasters. Therefore, “WMO facilitates the free and unrestricted exchange of data and information,” though has extended this to environmental protection. It is headquartered in Geneva, and has 183 Member Nations, including the U.S.

31. WTO

(1); [12.96%]; \$24,550,028

The World Trade Organization (WTO) was established in 1995 after about a decade of international negotiations. It is headquartered in Geneva, has 153 Member Nations, and 640 staff. The U.S. was among the first members. According to WTO, its “overriding purpose is to help trade flow as freely as possible.” But it is much more complicated than that. WTO committees and councils monitor national compliance with WTO agreements. Any country can file a dispute against

another through the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU) process. No country has had more cases filed against it (113 as respondent), or has filed more cases as complainant (98), than the U.S.

Conclusion

There are some entities affiliated with the United Nations, particularly those formed prior to the U.N., that are exceptionally beneficial to all nations and the United States, such as the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), the Universal Postal Union (UPU), and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). But the purpose and reliability of some U.N. entities and programs are questionable – at least for U.S. membership or financial support – including the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the International Labor Organization (ILO), RAMSAR, the U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime, and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Other U.N. entities ought to be eliminated, particularly UNFPA, U.N. Development Programme (UNDP), U.N. Environmental Programme (UNEP), and UNESCO. The criminal tribunals should complete their work quickly, and then be disbanded. Finally, due to conflicting scientific assessments, the “climate change” assumptions should be reconsidered, and the global government control and financial greed motives exposed.

Mr. Jacobson is a Visiting Fellow for the Center for Sovereignty & Security, a Division of Freedom Alliance, and President of the International Diplomacy & Public Policy Center, LLC.

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