

## CHAPTER ONE

# The United Nations: Origins, Nature and Membership

### 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,

#### 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,

HAVE RESOLVED TO COMBINE OUR EFFORTS  
TO ACCOMPLISH THESE AIMS.

*Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations*