

UN SECRETARIAT

Headquartered in New York, the UN Secretariat is staffed by around 35,000 personnel worldwide - including nearly 6,000 Americans - who carry out day-to-day operations of the UN. This includes implementing mandates adopted by the General Assembly and Security Council. The reach of its many responsibilities are carried out with an annual budget of \$3.7 billion - equivalent to the state budget of New Hampshire.

Main Functions

- Planning and managing peacekeeping and political missions
- Mediating international disputes
- Assisting with implementation of Security Council sanctions
- Coordinating disaster relief across humanitarian agencies
- Promoting social and economic development
- Publishing statistics and research
- Setting the agenda for deliberative bodies of the UN
- Facilitating discussion and meetings among UN Member States

Secretary-General

The Secretariat is led by the Secretary-General, selected every five years by the Security Council and approved by a majority vote of the General Assembly. Although there is no formal limit to the number of terms a Secretary-General serves, they customarily serve no more than two.

The current Secretary-General is former Portuguese Prime Minister António Guterres, who assumed office on January 1, 2017. Guterres will end his tenure in December 2026. The selection process for his successor is anticipated to start in January 2026. Through consistent engagement, the U.S. will have the opportunity to influence the selection of candidates.

Bodies housed in the UN Secretariat fall into three categories

Functional Commissions

that deliver expertise on issue areas such as crime prevention, technology, science, narcotics and gender.

Regional Commissions

that focus on regional economic and social development in Africa, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific.

Other Bodies

operating in the Secretariat include standing and ad hoc bodies created in response to emerging issues and needs for expertise.

\$1.2 B

UNICEF and the UN Secretariat are main procurers of U.S. goods and services, awarding a combined **\$1.2 billion to U.S. businesses in 2023.**

