



GC

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EXAMINATION OF DELEGATES' CREDENTIALS

Report of the General Committee

1. At its second meeting, on 25 September 1986, the General Committee examined the credentials of delegates to the session, as provided for in Rule 28 of the Conference's Rules of Procedure.
2. At the outset, the Chairman of the Committee mentioned Rules 27, 28 and 29 of the Rules of Procedure and, referring to an opinion by the United Nations Legal Counsel, read out the following points of Rule 27 regarding credentials for the General Conference:
 - (a) Credentials designate the delegate of a Member State to a given session of the General Conference;
 - (b) They are submitted to the Director General; and
 - (c) They are issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister of Foreign Affairs.
3. The Chairman of the Committee then announced that credentials satisfying the requirements of Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure had been submitted to the Director General for the delegates of the following 69 Members:

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Afghanistan	Liechtenstein
Albania	Malaysia
Algeria	Mauritius
Argentina	Mexico
Australia	Monaco
Austria	Mongolia
Bangladesh	Morocco
Brazil	Netherlands
Bulgaria	New Zealand
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Niger
Canada	Norway
Chile	Pakistan
China	Panama
Costa Rica	Poland
Côte d'Ivoire	Portugal
Cuba	Spain
Czechoslovakia	Sudan
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Sweden
Denmark	Switzerland
Egypt	Syrian Arab Republic
Finland	Thailand
German Democratic Republic	Tunisia
Germany, Federal Republic of	Turkey
Ghana	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
Greece	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Guatemala	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland
Holy See	United States of America
Hungary	Venezuela
Iceland	Zimbabwe
India	
Indonesia	
Iran, Islamic Republic of	
Iraq	
Ireland	
Israel	
Italy	
Japan	
Jordan	
Kenya	
Korea, Republic of	

4. The Chairman of the Committee announced further that various official communications received by the Secretariat with respect to the status of the delegates of the following 20 Members did not constitute credentials that satisfied the provisions of Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure:

Belgium	Peru
Colombia	Philippines
Ecuador	Qatar
Kuwait	Saudi Arabia
Lebanon	Senegal
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Sri Lanka
Luxembourg	United Arab Emirates
Mali	United Republic of Tanzania
Nigeria	Viet Nam, Socialist Republic of
Paraguay	Zambia

5. The Committee was informed that up to the time of its meeting on 25 September 1986 no credentials or other communications of accreditation had been received in respect of the following three members:

France
Yugoslavia
Zaire

6. The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic stated his delegation's reservations regarding the credentials of the delegate of Israel as he considered them invalid for the following legal reasons:

(a) the borders of Israel were not internationally recognized, as they included part of the territories of other States, illegally occupied and annexed by Israel;

(b) the international community did not recognize the annexation of Jerusalem nor its status as the capital of Israel;

(c) The policy of Israel was based on zionism, which had been declared by the General Assembly to be a form of racism equivalent to apartheid;

(d) Israel persistently violated the inalienable right of the indigenous population of Palestine to self-determination.

7. The representative of Morocco regarded as illegal under international law the unilateral transfer by Israel of its capital to the Holy City of Jerusalem, which had never been recognized by the international community and the United Nations. Therefore his delegation had very strong reservations concerning the credentials of the Israeli delegate.

8. The representative of the United States of America objected to the statements made by previous speakers regarding the credentials of the delegate of Israel on the grounds that they were of no relevance to the examination of credentials under the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference. He further said that the United States of America remained deeply concerned about the situation in Afghanistan and that, in not pressing an objection concerning the credentials of the representatives of Afghanistan, the United States should not be considered as acquiescing in the armed intervention in that country. He said that the regime installed and maintained in Afghanistan by Soviet intervention and occupation was not representative of the Afghan people.

9. The representative of Cuba supported the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic concerning the credentials of the Israeli delegate. In his opinion, the comments made by the representative of the United States of America regarding Afghanistan were actually applicable to the States totally or partially dependent on the United States of America.

10. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics strongly rejected as irrelevant, propagandastic and purely political the allegations by the representative of the United States of America concerning Afghanistan, which was a sovereign State and an active member of the non-aligned movement fighting against imperialistic aggression. He wished also to associate himself with reservations expressed in respect of the credentials of the Israeli delegate, and reiterated objections made by his delegation at previous sessions of the General Conference concerning the credentials of the representative of Chile.

11. The representatives of India and the People's Republic of China endorsed the reservations made by the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic, Morocco and Cuba with regard to the validity of the Israeli credentials.

12. The representative of the German Democratic Republic supported the statement made by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

13. The representatives of Paraguay, the Netherlands, the Federal Republic of Germany, New Zealand, Canada and Denmark associated themselves with the view expressed by the representative of the United States of America to the effect that objections to the credentials of the Israeli delegate were irrelevant under the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference. They stressed the need for the Committee to abide by the decisions adopted by it at the last session of the General Conference in this regard.

14. The Chairman then proposed that, in accordance with past practice, those delegates for whom satisfactory credentials had not been received should be allowed to participate in the work of the Conference on the understanding that satisfactory credentials for each of them would be submitted to the Director General as soon as possible.

15. Finally, the Chairman read the following draft resolution, as recommended by the Committee for adoption by the Conference:

"Examination of delegates' credentials"

The General Conference

Accepts the report by the General Committee on its examination of the credentials of delegates to the Conference's first special session, which is set forth in document GC(SPL.I)/17."