



GC

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Agenda item 24  
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## **EXAMINATION OF DELEGATES' CREDENTIALS**

### Report of the General Committee

1. At its third meeting, on 24 September 1998, 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 read out the following aspects 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 101 Members:

Afghanistan  
Albania  
Algeria  
Argentina  
Armenia  
Australia  
Austria  
Bangladesh  
Belarus  
Belgium  
Bolivia  
Brazil

Bulgaria  
Canada  
Chile  
China  
Colombia  
Costa Rica  
Croatia  
Cuba  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Ecuador

Egypt  
Estonia  
Ethiopia  
Finland  
France  
Georgia  
Germany  
Ghana  
Greece  
Holy See  
Hungary  
Iceland

India	Namibia	Sri Lanka
Indonesia	Netherlands	Sweden
Iran, Islamic Republic of	New Zealand	Switzerland
Iraq	Nicaragua	Syrian Arab Republic
Ireland	Niger	Thailand
Israel	Nigeria	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Japan	Norway	Tunisia
Jordan	Pakistan	Turkey
Kenya	Panama	Ukraine
Korea, Republic of	Paraguay	United Arab Emirates
Kuwait	Peru	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Latvia	Philippines	United Republic of Tanzania
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Poland	United States of America
Liechtenstein	Portugal	Uruguay
Lithuania	Republic of Moldova	Uzbekistan
Luxembourg	Romania	Venezuela
Madagascar	Russian Federation	Viet Nam
Malaysia	Saudi Arabia	Yemen
Mexico	Singapore	Zambia
Monaco	Slovakia	
Mongolia	Slovenia	
Morocco	South Africa	
Myanmar	Spain	

4. The Chairman of the Committee announced further that various official communications in the form of telefax copies of original credentials, notes or letters from Permanent Missions or other authorities received by the Secretariat with respect to the status of the following 15 Members do not constitute formal credentials under rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure:

Bosnia and Herzegovina	Italy	Senegal
Burkina Faso	Kazakhstan	Sierra Leone
Cameroon	Lebanon	Sudan
Democratic Republic of Congo	Liberia	Zimbabwe
Guatemala	Mali	
	Qatar	

5. The Chairman of the Committee pointed out then that the Committee had received a document (GC(42)/22) submitted by Kuwait on behalf of the Arab States which are participating in the 42nd regular session of the General Conference, containing a statement of delegations of Arab States concerning their reservations about the credentials of the Israeli delegation to the Conference. The Chairman also pointed out that the Committee had also received a document (GC(42)/27) submitted by Israel which set out its position with regard to the reservations expressed by Kuwait on behalf of the Arab States participating in the Conference.

6. An extensive discussion took place on the above-mentioned documents in which statements were made by the representatives of Kuwait, Morocco, the Netherlands, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole speaking as the representative of Australia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and the Philippines. These statements are fully reflected in the records of the Committee's meeting (GC(42)/GEN/OR.3).

7. Further, the Chairman of the Committee proposed that, in accordance with past practice, those delegates for whom proper credentials had not been received should, nevertheless, be allowed to participate in the work of the Conference on the understanding that they would submit credentials in due form as soon as possible, preferably before the end of the current session of the Conference.

8. Finally, the Chairman read the following draft of a resolution:

"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 forty-second regular session which is set forth in document GC(42)/41".

9. The Committee agreed to recommend that the Conference adopt the draft resolution contained in paragraph 8.

