

General Conference

GC(47)/24
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Forty-seventyh regular session

Item 24 of the agenda
(GC(47)/21)

Examination of Delegates' Credentials

Report of the General Committee

1. At its second meeting, on 18 September 2003, 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 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. Credentials satisfying the requirements of Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure have been submitted to the Director General for the delegates of the following 82 Members:

Albania	China	Germany
Algeria	Costa Rica	Ghana
Angola	Croatia	Greece
Australia	Cuba	Guatemala
Austria	Cyprus	Holy See
Azerbaijan	Czech Republic	Hungary
Belgium	Denmark	Iceland
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Ecuador	India
Brazil	Egypt	Iran, Islamic Republic of
Bulgaria	Eritrea	Israel
Burkina Faso	Estonia	Italy
Cameroon	Finland	Japan
Canada	France	Jordan

Latvia	Pakistan	Thailand
Liechtenstein	Philippines	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Lithuania	Poland	Tunisia
Luxembourg	Portugal	Turkey
Madagascar	Russian Federation	Ukraine
Malaysia	Serbia and Montenegro	United Arab Emirates
Malta	Singapore	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Mexico	Slovakia	United Republic of Tanzania
Monaco	Slovenia	United States of America
Myanmar	South Africa	Uruguay
Namibia	Spain	Venezuela
Netherlands	Sri Lanka	Vietnam
New Zealand	Sweden	Zambia
Nigeria	Switzerland	
Norway	Syrian Arab Republic	

4. Various official communications, which do not constitute formal credentials under Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure have been received by the Secretariat. Copies of original credentials have been received for the delegates of the following 20 Members¹: Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Georgia, Haiti, Kenya, Korea, Republic of, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Nicaragua, Niger, Panama, Paraguay, Saudi Arabia and Zimbabwe. Communications in the form of notes, or letters or telefax copies emanating from Permanent Missions or other authorities have been received for the delegates of the following 20 Members²: Afghanistan, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Indonesia, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mongolia, Peru, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Uganda and Yemen.

5. The Chairman of the Committee pointed out then that the Committee had received a document (GC(47)/22) containing reservations submitted by the Ambassador of Oman (the Dean of the Arab Diplomatic Corps in Vienna) on behalf of certain Arab delegations participating in the 47th General Conference, concerning the credentials of the Israeli delegation to the Conference. The Chairman also pointed out that the Committee had also received a document (GC(47)/23) submitted by the delegation of Israel which set out its position with regard to the reservations expressed by the Ambassador of Oman on behalf of certain Arab delegations participating in the 47th General Conference.

6. Statements were made by the representatives of Kuwait and Algeria. On the invitation of the Chairman of the Committee, the representative of Israel also spoke on the matter. These statements are fully reflected in the records of the Committee's meeting (GC(47)GEN/OR.2).

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.

¹ Following the second meeting of the General Committee, credentials satisfying the requirements of Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure were submitted by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Peru and Saudi Arabia.

² Following the second meeting of the General Committee, copies of original credentials were submitted by Belarus and Romania.

8. Finally, the Chairman read the following draft 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-seventh regular session, which is set forth in document GC(47)/24”.

9. The Committee agreed to recommend that the Conference adopt the draft resolution contained in paragraph 8, with the reservations and positions expressed above.