

# General Conference

**GC(49)/GEN/OR.1**

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## Forty-Ninth (2005) Regular Session

# General Committee

## Record of the First Meeting

*Held at the Austria Center, Vienna on Monday, 26 September 2005, at 6.15 p.m.*

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<sup>1</sup> GC(49)/1 and Add.1.

## **Attendance**

### Chairman

Mr. BAZOBERRY (Bolivia), President of the General Conference

### Members

Ms. HALL (Canada), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. SKOKNIC (Chile), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. WU Hailong, representing Mr. ZHANG Huazhu (China), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. AMHA (Ethiopia), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. SERGEEV, representing Mr. RUMYANTSEV (Russian Federation), Vice-President of the General Conference

Ms. WIJewardane (Sri Lanka), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. ARAMRATTANA, representing Mr. PANUPONG (Thailand), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. JENKINS, representing Mr. WRIGHT (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. STRATFORD (United States of America), Chairman of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. BEKOE (Ghana), Additional Member

Mr. NIEWODNICZAŃSKI (Poland), Additional Member

Ms. ŽIAKOVÁ (Slovakia), Additional Member

Ms. KASHLAN, representing Mr. OTHMAN (Syrian Arab Republic), Additional Member

### Secretariat

Mr. ANING, Secretary of the Committee

– **Adoption of the agenda for the meeting**  
(GC(49)/GEN/1)

1. The CHAIRMAN said that, in conducting the Committee's business, he intended to follow the established practice whereby its meetings were private but representatives of Member States which had requested the inclusion of an item in the agenda were entitled, pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure, to attend relevant meetings and to participate, without vote, in the discussion of their request. Representatives of other Member States could also attend the Committee's meetings and participate in discussions as decided by the Committee.
2. The proposed agenda for the meeting contained the two traditional sub-items under the item "Arrangements for the Conference", namely "Adoption of the agenda and allocation of items for initial discussion" and "Closing date of the session and opening date of the next session".
3. The agenda was adopted.

## **5. Arrangements for the Conference**

**(a) Adoption of the agenda and allocation of items for initial discussion**  
(GC(49)/1 and Add.1)

4. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the provisional agenda for the Conference (GC(49)/1 and Add.1). If there were no objections, he would take it that the Committee wished to recommend to the Conference that the agenda for the current session should consist of all the items listed in document GC(49)/1 and Add.1.
5. It was so agreed.
6. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the allocation of agenda items for initial discussion and the order of discussion suggested in document GC(49)/1 and Add.1. If there were no objections, he would take it that the Committee wished to recommend to the Conference the allocation of agenda items for initial discussion and the order of discussion suggested in document GC(49)/1 and Add.1.
7. It was so agreed.

**(b) Closing date of the session and opening date of the next session**

8. The CHAIRMAN said that the number of speakers registering to speak in the general debate was one of the main factors influencing the length of the session. Over 100 delegations had registered to speak so far. The cooperation and goodwill of all delegations would be required if the Conference was to finish its work on schedule. The Committee of the Whole needed to finish its work by Thursday evening at the latest.

9. Mr. ANING (Secretary of the Committee), in response to a question from Mr. SKOKNIC (Chile), said that provisions had been made to hold evening meetings on Tuesday, Wednesday and possibly Thursday, if necessary, to finish the Conference on time.

10. The CHAIRMAN said that, if there were no objections, he would take it that the Committee wished to recommend to the Conference a closing date for the current session of Friday, 30 September 2005.

11. It was so agreed.

12. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that, for the next regular session, conference facilities at the Austria Center had been provisionally booked for the week beginning Monday, 18 September 2006. If there were no objections, he would take it that the Committee wished to recommend that date to the Conference as the opening date of the next regular session.

13. It was so agreed.

## – **Restoration of voting rights** (GC(49)/INF/13)

14. The CHAIRMAN said that a request for restoration of voting rights had been received from Iraq (GC(49)/INF/13). He suggested that the General Committee should consider that request, and any others which were submitted in the meantime, when it met again as a credentials committee on Thursday, 29 September.

**The meeting rose at 6.30 p.m.**