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Twenty-eighth regular session Agenda item 22 (GC(XXVIII)/730)

## EXAMINATION OF DELEGATES' CREDENTIALS Report of the General Committee

- 1. At its forty-fifth meeting, on 27 September 1984, 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 84 Members:

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Albania Australia Austria Belgium Bulgaria

Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic Canada Chile China Colombia

Costa Rica Cuba Cyprus Czechoslovakia Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Denmark Ecuador Egypt Finland France

Gabon German Democratic Republic Germany, Federal Republic of Ghana

Guatemala Holy See Hungary Iceland

Greece

India

Indonesia
Iran, Islamic Republic of
Iraq
Ireland
Israel

Italy
Ivory Coast
Japan
Jordan
Korea, Republic of

Kuwait Liechtenstein Luxembourg Malaysia Mexico Monaco Mongolia Morocco Namibia Netherlands

New Zealand Nicaragua Niger Nigeria Norway

Pakistan Panama Paraguay Peru Philippines

Poland Portugal Qatar Romania Sri Lanka

Sudan Sweden Switzerland Syrian Arab Republic Thailand

Tunisia Turkey Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic Union of Soviet Socialist Republics United Arab Emirates

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland United Republic of Tanzania United States of America Uruguay Venezuela

Viet Nam Yugoslavia Zaire Zambia 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 13 Members did not constitute credentials that satisfied the provisions of Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure:

Algeria Argentinia Bangladesh Bolivia Brazil

Saudi Arabia Senegal Spain

Dominican Republic Kenya Lebanon Libyan Arab Jamahiriya Madagascar

- 5. The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran stated, with regard to the credentials of the delegate of Israel, that it had been and still was the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran not to approve the credentials of the Israeli delegate. His delegation therefore rejected the Israeli delegates's credentials.
- 6. The representative of Iraq said that he had reservations with respect to the credentials of the Israeli delegation for the following reasons:
  - (a) Neither Iraq nor the United Nations Security Council recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel:
  - (b) Iraq regarded as illegal the occupation by Israel of Arab territories, including territories of Palestine, the Syrian Arab Republic and Lebanon, and therefore did not accept that Israel represented the populations of these territories;
  - (c) The Israeli military attack on a peaceful nuclear reactor in Iraq was a violation of Israel's obligations under the Statute of the Agency to further the peaceful application of nuclear energy.
- 7. The representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia associated themselves with the previous statements regarding the credentials of the Israeli delegate.
- 8. The representative of the United States of America regretted the injection of political considerations which had nothing to do with the validity of credentials. Article V of the Statute provided for each Member to be represented, and Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference set forth the criteria for the validity of credentials documents. To deprive a Member of the right to participate on other grounds would strike at the principle of universality which underpinned the entire United Nations system. In his opinion, the arguments advanced against some credentials were not relevant. He urged the acceptance of all credentials submitted to the Committee.

- 9. The representatives of Japan, Australia, Canada, Uruguay, France and the Federal Republic of Germany associated themselves with the views expressed by the representative of the United States of America.
- 10. The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, speaking on behalf of the Nigerian delegation, said he would have no objection to the credentials of the Israeli delegate if they were in conformity with the requirements of Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure.
- 11. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics reiterated reservations made at previous sessions of the General Conference concerning the credentials of the delegate of Chile and wished to have this position reflected in the report of the Committee.
- 12. 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.
- 13. Finally, the Committee agreed to recommend the following draft resolution for adoption by the General 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 twenty-eighth regular session which is set forth in document GC(XXVIII)/743."