



GC

International Atomic Energy Agency

GENERAL CONFERENCE

GC(XXIX)/GEN/OR.47
December 1985*

Restricted Distr
ENGLISH

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TWENTY-NINTH REGULAR SESSION: 23-27 SEPTEMBER 1985

GENERAL COMMITTEE

RECORD OF THE FORTY-SEVENTH MEETING

Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna,
on Thursday, 26 September 1985, at 5.45 p.m.

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*/ A provisional version of this document was issued on 1 October 1985.

**/ GC(XXIX)/763.

ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING

Chairman

Mr. MANOUAN (Ivory Coast), President of the General Conference

Members

Mr. ERNEMANN (Belgium), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. MORALES, representing Mr. CASTRO DIAZ-BALART (Cuba), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. VERMA, representing Mr. RAMANNA (India), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. TSUKADA, representing Mr. MURATA (Japan), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. BADDOU (Morocco), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. LINEHAM, representing Mr. WALKER (New Zealand), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. TIMERBAEV, representing Mr. PETROSYANTS (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. CHAPMAN, representing Mr. BOGGS (United States of America), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. SCHEEL (German Democratic Republic), Chairman of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. MORDEN (Canada), Additional Member

Mr. CHRISTENSEN (Denmark), Additional Member

Mr. van GORKOM (Netherlands), Additional Member

Mr. PECCI (Paraguay), Additional Member

Mr. HADDAD (Syrian Arab Republic), Additional Member

Mr. SHASH (Egypt), Chairman of the Board of Governors

Secretariat

Mr. SANMUGANATHAN, Secretary of the Committee

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING

1. The CHAIRMAN asked whether the Committee wished to adopt the provisional agenda contained in document GC(XXIX)/GEN/68.
2. It was so decided.

EXAMINATION OF DELEGATES' CREDENTIALS

3. The CHAIRMAN, after referring to Rules 27, 28 and 29 of the Rules of Procedure and summarizing Rule 27 on the basis of an opinion given by the United Nations Legal Counsel some years previously, said that the Committee's task was simply to ascertain that the requirements of Rule 27 had been satisfied. The present situation was as follows: 83 delegates had submitted credentials complying with Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure, while in respect of 13 delegates the Secretariat had received communications which did not constitute proper credentials meeting the requirements of that Rule. In addition, there were two delegates attending the session in respect of whom no credentials or other communications of accreditation had been received.
4. Mr. HADDAD (Syrian Arab Republic) said that his delegation wished to reserve its position regarding the credentials of the delegate of Israel, which were invalid for a number of legal reasons. First, the borders of Israel were not internationally recognized, since they included parts of the territory of other States illegally occupied and annexed by the Zionist entity. Secondly, although Israel considered Jerusalem to be its capital, that city had been illegally annexed and its status as the capital had never been recognized by the international community. Thirdly, Israel was governed by a Zionist régime, and Zionism had been declared by the General Assembly to be a form of racism equivalent to apartheid. Finally, that régime had persistently denied the original population of Palestine its right to self-determination.
5. Mr. SHASH (Chairman of the Board of Governors), speaking as the representative of Egypt, said that his Government's position had not changed with regard to the illegal occupation by Israel of Arab Jerusalem, the Syrian Golan Heights, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and territories of Lebanon. Egypt therefore had reservations about the credentials of the Israeli delegate.

6. Mr. TIMERBAEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) supported the position expressed by the Chairman of the Board of Governors.

7. Mr. CHAPMAN (United States of America) regretted the fact that some Committee Members had objected to a delegate's credentials on political grounds, since the task of the Committee was merely to examine whether delegates' credentials were valid under Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure. The politically motivated rejection of the Israeli delegate's credentials would constitute an illegal de facto suspension of its membership in the Agency. If that were to occur the United States delegation would be obliged to withdraw from the General Conference and to suspend its participation in the Agency. He therefore urged the Committee to accept all credentials submitted in accordance with Rule 27.

8. Mr. BADDOU (Morocco) associated himself with the reservations expressed by the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic; in his own delegation's case those reservations related to the validity of the Israeli delegate's credentials and not to Israel's membership in the United Nations or the Agency. The fact was that those credentials had been drawn up in Jerusalem, which had been illegally annexed.

9. Mr. MORALES (Cuba), supporting the statement by the Syrian delegation, said that his delegation would not countenance pressure being exerted by any Member State with a view to preventing the Committee from fulfilling its responsibilities to the Conference.

10. Mr. SCHEEL (Chairman of the Committee of the Whole), speaking as a representative of the German Democratic Republic, associated himself with the reservations expressed about the credentials of the Israeli delegate.

11. Mr. PECCI (Paraguay) associated himself with the views expressed by the representative of the United States while taking exception to that representative's reference to a possible withdrawal from the Agency.

12. Mr. van GORKOM (Netherlands) said that political considerations should be excluded from the examination of credentials under Rule 27 and that the credentials of the delegate of Israel should be accepted.

13. Mr. TSUKADA (Japan) said that the examination of credentials by the Committee was a technical and legal exercise into which political considerations should not enter.
14. Mr. LINEHAM (New Zealand) supported the statements by the representatives of the Netherlands and Japan.
15. Mr. HADDAD (Syrian Arab Republic) agreed with the attitude of the representative of Cuba.
16. Mr. ERNEMANN (Belgium) pointed out that the Committee's recommending approval of the Israeli delegate's credentials would not mean that all delegations were in favour of their being accepted, especially if they had expressed reservations.
17. Mr. TIMERBAEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), supported by Mr. SCHEEL (Chairman of the Committee of the Whole) speaking as a representative of the German Democratic Republic, said that his delegation had reservations about the credentials of the delegate of Chile for the reasons expressed at previous sessions of the General Conference.
18. Mr. CHAPMAN (United States of America), supported by Mr. PECCI (Paraguay), said that his statement in respect of the credentials of the Israeli delegate was also valid for those of the delegate of Chile.
19. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee's report to the General Conference contain a summary of the discussion which had just taken place and a list of the Member States whose delegates were in possession of satisfactory credentials, a list of those for whose delegates the Director General had received communications not complying with Rule 27 and one of those for whose delegates no credentials or communications of accreditation had been received. The report would indicate that, following the practice of previous years, the General Committee considered that delegates in the latter two categories should be allowed to participate in the work of the Conference on the understanding that for each such delegate proper credentials would be submitted to the Director General as soon as possible. Lastly, the report would include a draft resolution reading as follows:

"The General Conference

"Accepts the report by the General Committee on its examination of the credentials of delegates to the Conference's twenty-ninth regular session, which is set forth in document GC(XXIX)/..."

20. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 6.20 p.m.