



International Atomic Energy Agency

GENERAL CONFERENCE

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Agenda item 21
(GC(XXXII)/856)

EXAMINATION OF DELEGATES' CREDENTIALS

Report of the General Committee

1. At its fifty-fourth meeting, on 22 September 1988, 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	Korea, Republic of
Algeria	Kuwait
Argentina	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Australia	Liechtenstein
Austria	Luxembourg
Bangladesh	Malaysia
Belgium	Mauritius
Bulgaria	Mexico
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Monaco
Canada	Mongolia
Chile	Morocco
China	Namibia
Colombia	Netherlands
Costa Rica	New Zealand
Côte d'Ivoire	Nigeria
Cuba	Norway
Cyprus	Pakistan
Czechoslovakia	Panama
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Paraguay
Denmark	Philippines
Finland	Poland
France	Portugal
German Democratic Republic	Qatar
Germany, Federal Republic of	Romania
Ghana	Saudi Arabia
Greece	Sudan
Guatemala	Sweden
Holy See	Switzerland
Hungary	Syrian Arab Republic
Iceland	Thailand
India	Turkey
Indonesia	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
Iran, Islamic Republic of	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Iraq	United Arab Emirates
Ireland	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Israel	United Republic of Tanzania
Italy	United States of America
Japan	Uruguay
Jordan	Venezuela
Kenya	Viet Nam
	Yugoslavia
	Zaire
	Zambia
	Zimbabwe

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 15 Members did not constitute credentials that satisfied the provisions of Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure:

Afghanistan	Niger
Bolivia	Peru
Brazil	Senegal
Cameroon	Sierra Leone
Ecuador	Spain
Egypt	Sri Lanka
Lebanon	Tunisia
Madagascar	

5. The Chairman of the Committee then drew the attention of the Committee to document GC(XXXII)/854 containing reservations made by Arab delegations members of the League of Arab States participating in the thirty-second session of the General Conference about the credentials of the Israeli delegate. He proposed that the Committee take note of these reservations and that they be reflected in the Committee's report and in the summary records of the meeting.

6. The representative of the United States of America expressed his delegation's regret that some members of the Committee had expressed reservations concerning the credentials of the delegate of Israel on political grounds. He stated that it was beyond the Committee's mandate to make judgements on different social systems, political programmes or territorial disputes, and emphasized that it was essential that, even though Member States might have different views, they continued to speak to one another. The delegate of the United States of America urged the acceptance of all credentials unless they did not meet the requirements of the Rules of Procedure. He further said that the United States remained deeply concerned about the situation in Afghanistan and that, in not pressing an objection concerning the representatives of Afghanistan, the United States should not be regarded as accepting the régime in Kabul as legitimate, or representative of the Afghan people.

7. The representative of Saudi Arabia said that his delegation had reservations about and rejected the credentials of the Israeli entity because Israel continued to defy the Charter and other instruments of the United Nations and international law, continued its occupation of Arab territories on the West Bank and in the Golan region, and perpetuated its aggression against the Arab nation. He urged the Committee to express reservations regarding the credentials of the Israel delegate because Israel was not responsive to the repeated calls made to it by the whole world to keep by the peace.

8. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics said that his delegation was astonished by the statement made by the representative of the United States of America. The delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics considered the statement to be a new attempt to divert the General Conference from the tasks facing the International Atomic Energy Agency in developing international co-operation in the field of peaceful application of nuclear energy and strengthening the regime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics expressed his delegation's regret that such an attempt was being made at a time when the process of political settlement was under way in Afghanistan and emphasized that the statement of the representative of the United States of America did not facilitate that process. Also, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics confirmed his delegation's reservations with respect to the credentials of the delegate of Chile.

9. The representative of Tunisia said that his delegation was a co-author of the statement contained in document GC(XXXII)/854 concerning reservations with respect to the credentials of the delegate of the Israeli entity for reasons clearly expressed in the said document. He proposed that those reservations be reflected in the Committee's report and the records of the meeting.

10. The representatives of Canada and Norway stated that they did not share the reservations concerning the credentials of the delegate of Israel. They urged that all credentials that conformed to the requirements of the Rules of Procedure be accepted.

11. The representative of Colombia stated that, in accordance with the principles of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other States regardless of their political systems, his delegation considered it important that all Member States be heard and enjoy adequate participation in the Agency.

12. The representative of Bulgaria said that, in view of the conclusion of the Geneva Agreements on Afghanistan, the statement made by the delegate of the United States of America aroused concern and was totally unacceptable.

13. The representative of Ireland expressed the view that all credentials which were technically in order and were in conformity with the relevant Rules of Procedure should be accepted.

14. At the conclusion of the statements made by the members of the Committee, the Chairman noted that all comments and reservations concerning the credentials of certain delegates, including the reservations contained in document GC(XXXII)/854, would be fully reflected in the Committee's report and the summary records.

15. 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.

16. 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 thirty-second regular session which is set forth in document GC(XXXII)/866."

