

General Conference

GC(48)/28

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Forty-eighth regular session

Item 22 of the agenda (GC(48)/25)

Examination of Delegates' Credentials

Report of the General Committee

- 1. At its second meeting, on 23 September 2004, 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 89 Members¹:

Chile Albania Ghana Algeria China Greece Angola Costa Rica Guatemala Australia Croatia Haiti Bangladesh Cuba Holy See Belarus Cyprus Hungary Czech Republic **Iceland** Belgium Bosnia and Herzegovina Denmark India Botswana Egypt Indonesia

Brazil Eritrea Iran, Islamic Republic of

BulgariaEstoniaIrelandBurkina FasoFinlandIsraelCanadaFranceJapan

¹ Following the second meeting of the General Committee, credentials satisfying the requirements of Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure were submitted by Kenya.

JordanNew ZealandSri LankaKuwaitNigerSwedenLatviaNigeriaSwitzerland

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya Norway Syrian Arab Republic

LiechtensteinPakistanThailandLithuaniaPhilippinesTunisiaLuxembourgPolandTurkeyMadagascarPortugalUkraine

MalaysiaRomaniaUnited Arab EmiratesMauritiusRussian FederationUnited Kingdom of GreatMexicoSaudi ArabiaBritain and Northern IrelandMonacoSerbia and MontenegroUnited Republic of TanzaniaMongoliaSingaporeUnited States of America

MoroccoSlovakiaVenezuelaMyanmarSloveniaVietnamNamibiaSouth AfricaYemenNetherlandsSpainZambia

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 16 Members²: Afghanistan, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Colombia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Germany³, Italy, Kenya, Korea, Republic of, Kyrgyzstan, Malta, Panama, Seychelles, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Uruguay. 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 19 Members⁴: Armenia, Austria, Bolivia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Georgia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Mali, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan and Zimbabwe.

- 5. The Chairman of the Committee pointed out that the Committee had received a document (GC(48)/23) containing reservations submitted by the Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman (the Dean of the Arab Diplomatic Corps in Vienna) on behalf of certain Arab delegations participating in the 48th General Conference, concerning their reservations about the credentials of the Israeli delegation to the Conference. The Chairman also pointed out that the Committee had also received a document (GC(48)/24) submitted by the delegation of Israel which sets out its position with regard to the reservations expressed by the Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman on behalf of certain Arab delegations participating in the 48th General Conference.
- 6. 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.

² Following the second meeting of the General Committee, a copy of the original credentials was submitted by Lebanon.

³ The Permanent Mission of Germany notified the Secretariat on 23 September 2004, that the original letter of credentials for their Head of Delegation, duly signed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Germany, was sent to the Secretariat as an enclosure to a Note Verbale on 3 September 2004. While the Secretariat received the aforementioned Note Verbale on 6 September 2004, it has no record of receipt of the enclosure thereto.

⁴ Following the second meeting of the General Committee, a communication concerning the delegates of Uzbekistan was submitted by the Permanent Mission of Uzbekistan.

7. The Committee, with the reservations and positions expressed above, agreed to recommend that the Conference adopt the following draft resolution:

"Examination of delegates' credentials

The General Conference,

<u>Accepts</u> the report by the General Committee on its examination of the credentials of delegates to the Conference's forty-eighth regular session, which is set forth in document GC(48)/28."