1. At its second meeting, on 21 September 2006, 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 92 Members:

   Albania    Colombia    Iceland
   Algeria    Croatia    India
   Angola     Cyprus     Indonesia
   Argentina  Czech Republic    Iran, Islamic Republic of
   Armenia    Denmark    Iraq
   Australia  Ecuador    Ireland
   Austria    Egypt    Israel
   Bangladesh  Estonia    Italy
   Belarus    Ethiopia    Japan
   Belgium    Finland    Korea, Republic of
   Bosnia and Herzegovina    France    Kuwait
   Botswana    Germany    Latvia
   Brazil    Ghana    Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
   Bulgaria    Greece    Liechtenstein
   Canada    Haiti    Lithuania
   Chile    Holy See    Luxembourg
   China    Hungary    Madagascar
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 21 Members: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Morocco, Namibia, Paraguay, Republic of Moldova, Senegal, Spain, Uganda and Zimbabwe. 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 Members: Côte d’Ivoire, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Georgia, Guatemala, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and Zambia.

5. The Chairman of the Committee pointed out that the Committee had received a document (GC(50)/25) 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 50th 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(50)/26) 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 50th 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.

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,

Accepts the report by the General Committee on its examination of the credentials of delegates to the Conference’s fiftieth regular session, which is set forth in document GC(50)/27.”