Fifty-second regular session

Examination of Delegates' Credentials

Report of the General Committee

1. At its second meeting, on 3 October 2008, 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 102 Members:

   Algeria  China  Iceland
   Angola  Colombia  India
   Argentina  Costa Rica  Indonesia
   Australia  Croatia  Iraq
   Austria  Cuba  Ireland
   Azerbaijan  Cyprus  Israel
   Bangladesh  Czech Republic  Italy
   Belarus  Denmark  Japan
   Benin  Egypt  Jordan
   Bolivia  El Salvador  Kazakhstan
   Bosnia and Herzegovina  Estonia  Korea, Republic of
   Botswana  Ethiopia  Kuwait
   Brazil  Finland  Latvia
   Bulgaria  France  Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
   Burkina Faso  Ghana  Liechtenstein
   Cameroon  Greece  Lithuania
   Canada  Guatemala  Luxembourg
   Chad  Holy See  Madagascar
   Chile  Hungary  Malawi
Malaysia  Portugal  The former Yugoslav
Malta  Republic of Moldova  Republic of Macedonia
Mauritius  Romania  Tunisia
Mexico  Russian Federation  Turkey
Monaco  Saudi Arabia  Uganda
Mongolia  Serbia  Ukraine
Montenegro  Singapore  United Arab Emirates
Morocco  Slovakia  United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Myanmar  Slovenia  Switzerland
Netherlands  South Africa  Tanzania
New Zealand  Spain  United States of America
Norway  Sri Lanka  Uruguay
Pakistan  Sweden  Vietnam
Paraguay  Switzerland  Zambia
Philippines  Syrian Arab Republic  Zimbabwe
Poland  Thailand  

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 9 Members: Afghanistan, Belgium, Gabon, Lebanon, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru and Seychelles. 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 24 Members: Albania, Armenia, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Georgia, Germany, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Panama, Qatar, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tajikistan, Venezuela and Yemen.

5. The Chairman of the Committee pointed out that the Committee had received a document GC(52)/27 containing reservations submitted by the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco, on behalf of certain Arab delegations participating in the 52nd 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(52)/28) submitted by the delegation of Israel which sets out its position with regard to the reservations expressed by the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco on behalf of certain Arab delegations participating in the 52nd 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 fifty-second regular session, which is set forth in document GC(52)/29.”