

General Conference

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Sixtieth regular session

General Committee

Record of the Second Meeting

Held at Headquarters, Vienna, on Thursday, 29 September 2016, at 9.15 a.m.

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¹ GC(60)/20.

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Attendance

Chair

Dato' Adnan OTHMAN (Malaysia), President of the General Conference

Members

- Mr BAILEY (Canada), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr ANDEREYA (Chile), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Ms ALIFERI (Greece), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr JINANGKUNG, representing Mr BUDIMAN (Indonesia), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr ESHRAGH JAHROMI, representing Mr SALEHI (Islamic Republic of Iran), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr HASANS, representing Ms ŠATROVSKA (Latvia), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr BATJARGAL (Mongolia), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr LEAL MATTA, representing Mr CASTELLANOS LÓPEZ (Guatemala), Additional Member
- Ms HADDAOUI, representing Mr SLAOUI (Morocco), Additional Member
- Mr JENSEN, representing Ms ANGELL-HANSEN (Norway), Additional Member
- Ms CHANTRE, representing Mr BAPTISTA MOITINHO DE ALMEIDA (Portugal), Additional Member
- Mr POSTNIKOV, representing Mr FERAPONTOV (Russian Federation), Additional Member

Chair of the Board of Governors

Mr VINHAS (Brazil)

Secretariat

- Ms DUNN LEE, Deputy Director General, Department of Management
- Ms JOHNSON, Director, Office of Legal Affairs
- Ms WIJEWARDANE, Secretary of the Committee

Adoption of the agenda for the meeting (GC(60)/GEN/2)

1. The <u>CHAIR</u> asked the Committee whether it wished to adopt the provisional agenda contained in document GC(60)/GEN/2.

2. <u>The agenda was adopted</u>.

22. Examination of delegates' credentials

(GC(60)/22 and 23)

3. The <u>CHAIR</u> proposed that the General Committee meet as a credentials committee and take up the examination of delegates' credentials.

4. Recalling Rules 27, 28 and 29 of the General Conference's Rules of Procedure, he said that credentials designated the delegate of a Member State to a given session of the General Conference, that they were submitted to the Director General and that they were issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of that Member State. The Committee's task was limited to ascertaining whether the requirements of Rule 27 had been satisfied.

5. The Committee had before it the report by the Secretariat, which set out the present situation with regard to the submission of delegates' credentials. After the report by the Secretariat had been issued, credentials in due form had been received for the delegates of Fiji. The Director General had thus received credentials in due form for 117 delegates. Also, the Secretariat had received communications in respect of 40 delegates that did not constitute formal credentials meeting the requirements of Rule 27. Eleven Member States were not participating and had not submitted any credentials.

6. Document GC(60)/22 contained a statement submitted by a number of Arab States members of the Agency participating in the sixtieth regular session of the General Conference, as listed in the document, regarding their reservations about the credentials of the Israeli delegate.

7. Document GC(60)/23 contained a communication from the Resident Representative of Israel setting out Israel's position with regard to those reservations.

8. <u>Mr ESHRAGH JAHROMI</u> (Islamic Republic of Iran) expressed his country's reservations about the credentials of the Israeli delegate.

9. <u>Mr BAILEY</u> (Canada), noting that his country, like the vast majority of the international community, had not recognized the annexation of Jerusalem or of the Golan Heights, asked whether the credentials submitted by the Government of Israel did in fact meet the requirements of Rule 27.

10. <u>Ms JOHNSON</u> (Director, Office of Legal Affairs) said that Rule 27 only stipulated that credentials had to be issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister of Foreign Affairs. It did not stipulate where the credentials should be signed, nor did international law impose any requirement in that regard. Therefore, the place of signature had no bearing on the validity of the

credentials. Likewise, the acceptance of credentials did not imply that the accepting authority was adopting a position with respect to the status of the place of signature under either international or national law.

11. The <u>CHAIR</u>, noting that the reservations about the credentials of the Israeli delegate would be reflected in his report to the General Conference, took it that the credentials of Israel could be accepted by the Committee.

12. It was so agreed.

13. The <u>CHAIR</u> suggested that the Committee submit to the General Conference a report stating that it had met to examine the credentials of delegates in accordance with Rule 28 of the Rules of Procedure, and containing a list of Member States whose delegates had, in the Committee's opinion, submitted credentials satisfying the requirements of Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure, and another list indicating the Member States for whose delegates the Director General had received communications that did not comply with that rule.

14. In accordance with past practice, the report could indicate that the Committee considered that delegates in the latter category 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.

15. The report should further state that the Committee had had before it, in document GC(60)/22, a statement submitted by a number of Arab States members of the Agency participating in the current session, as listed in that document, regarding their reservations about the credentials of the Israeli delegate and that the Committee had also had before it, in document GC(60)/23, a communication from the Resident Representative of Israel setting out Israel's position with regard to those reservations. In addition, the report should reflect the reservations expressed by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

16. Finally, the report should state that the Committee, with the aforementioned reservations and position, had 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 sixtieth regular session, which is set forth in document GC(60)/24."

17. He asked whether the General Committee wished a report on the lines he had described to be prepared and submitted to the General Conference.

18. <u>It was so decided</u>.

The meeting rose at 9.30 a.m.