SIXTH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

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Geneva, 20 November – 8 December 2006 Item 7 (b) of the agenda Credentials of representatives to the Conference Report of the Credentials Committee

## REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

- 1. Rule 3 of Rules of Procedure of the Sixth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction provides that "The Conference shall establish a Credentials Committee composed of the Chairman, one Vice-Chairman elected in accordance with Rule 5, and five members appointed by the Conference on the proposal of the President. The Committee shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay."
- 2. At the same meeting in accordance with Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure, the Conference unanimously elected Ambassador Philip Richard Owade (Kenya) as Chairman of the Credentials Committee and Ambassador Jürg Streuli (Switzerland) as Vice-Chairman of the Committee. Ms. Melissa S. Hersh, Associate Political Affairs Officer of the Department for Disarmament Affairs, served as Secretary of the Committee.
- 3. On 24 November 2006, in accordance with the above-mentioned Rule, the Conference acting on the proposal of the President appointed the following countries as members of the Credentials Committee: Bulgaria, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand and Tunisia.
- 4. Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure provides that: "The credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisors shall be submitted to the Secretary-General of the Conference, if possible not less than one week before the date fixed for the opening of the Conference. Credentials shall be issued either by the Head of the State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs."

- 5. The Committee held its 1st meeting on 1 December 2006 to examine the credentials received as of that date. The Committee had before it the Memorandum of 1 December 2006 from Mr. Tim Caughley, Secretary-General of the Sixth Review Conference, containing information on the status of the credentials of the representatives of the States Parties attending the Conference.
- 6. Noting the information contained in the Memorandum from the Secretary-General of the Sixth Review Conference, the Committee decided to issue an informal paper on the status of credentials. The informal paper was distributed to States that had not yet submitted original documentation on 1 December 2006.
- 7. Having examined the information contained in the Secretary-General's Memorandum as well as the documentation received from States Parties to the Convention, the Committee noted that as of 7 December 2006:
  - (a) Formal credentials in due form, as provided for by Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure, had been communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference for representatives from the following 85 States Parties: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Holy See, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Viet Nam and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
  - (b) Copies of credentials of the representatives of the following 8 States Parties had been communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference: Benin, Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Sudan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Yemen and Zimbabwe;
  - (c) The Designation of the representatives of the following 10 States Parties had been communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference by notes verbales or letters from their Permanent Missions in Geneva: Afghanistan, Botswana, Ecuador, Ghana, Iraq, Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Rwanda and Saudi Arabia.
- 8. At its 2nd meeting on 6 December 2006, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee agreed to accept the credentials of all the participating States Parties referred to in paragraph 7 (a), (b) and (c) above, on the understanding that the originals of the credentials of the representatives of those States referred to in paragraph 7 (b) and (c) would be submitted as soon as possible, in accordance with Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure.

- 9. At its 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, on 7 December 2006, the Committee unanimously adopted its report to the Conference.
- 10. The Credentials Committee recommends to the Conference the adoption of the following draft resolution:

## **Draft Resolution**

Report of the Credentials Committee to the Sixth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

THE SIXTH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION,

*Having considered* the report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.