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CREENTIALS OF THE REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CONFERENCE

Report of the Credentials Committee

Presiding Officer: Mr. Andrés AGUILAR (Venezuela)

1. At its first plenary meeting, on 24 August 1987, the Conference, in accordance with rule 4 of its rules of procedure (A/CONF.130/1 and Corr.1) appointed a Credentials Committee composed of the following States: Bahamas, China, Fiji, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Netherlands, Rwanda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Venezuela.
2. The Credentials Committee held one meeting on 4 September 1987.
3. Mr. Andrés Aguilar (Venezuela) was elected Presiding Officer of the Committee by acclamation.
4. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General of the Conference dated 3 September 1987, on the status of credentials of representatives attending the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development (A/CONF.130/CC/WP.1). Additional information on credentials received by the Secretary-General of the Conference after the issuance of the memorandum was provided to the Committee by the Secretary of the Committee. On the basis of the information made available to it the Committee noted that as at 4 September 1987:

(a) Formal credentials issued by the Head of the State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, as provided for in rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, had been submitted for the representatives of the following 74 States participating in the Conference: Algeria, Angola, Austria, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Costa Rica,

Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, Senegal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yugoslavia;

(b) Credentials for the representatives of the following 22 States issued by their respective Head of State or Government or Minister for Foreign Affairs had been communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference in the form of a cable: Afghanistan, Albania, Australia, Benin, Brazil, Burundi, Central African Republic, Congo, Dominican Republic, Gabon, Ghana, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mauritius, Mozambique, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Viet Nam;

(c) The designation of the representatives of the following 53 States had been communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference by means of a letter or a note verbale from their respective permanent representatives or permanent missions to the United Nations: Argentina, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Colombia, Comoros, Cyprus, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Maldives, Mali, Nepal, Panama, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Yemen, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe;

(d) In respect of Namibia, represented by the United Nations Council for Namibia, the designation of its representative was communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference in the form of a note from the President of the United Nations Council for Namibia.

5. Statements concerning the information provided to the Committee on the status of credentials of representatives attending the Conference were made by the representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, China, the Netherlands, the Federal Republic of Germany, Fiji and the Bahamas.

6. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that his delegation strongly rejected the recognition of credentials of so-called "Democratic Kampuchea". Time had undoubtedly shown the artificiality of the presence in the United Nations of the representatives of the Pol Pot régime overthrown by the Kampuchean people, a régime which still tended to mask itself under the label of "Democratic Kampuchea Coalition Government". By the same token, the participation of representatives of Pol Pot in the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development was absurd. They did not represent the Kampuchean people which sought peace, security and development - purposes which the activities of the Pol Pot renegades fully contradicted. Keeping

a place for the overthrown régime in the United Nations and its organs only hampered progress towards a Kampuchean settlement on the basis of national reconciliation in Kampuchea, as had been proposed by the leadership of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

7. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics also stated that his delegation furthermore confirmed its position regarding the non-recognition of the credentials submitted by the delegation of the Chilian fascist régime.

8. The representative of China stated that at previous sessions the General Assembly of the United Nations had correctly accepted the legitimate credentials of the delegations of Democratic Kampuchea. A certain representative on the Credentials Committee of the Conference, however, had raised reservations on that point. His delegation deemed it necessary to reaffirm its stand once more. As was well known, the Government of Democratic Kampuchea was the sole legitimate government of Kampuchea and was widely recognized and supported by the international community, a fact fully confirmed by all the related resolutions of the General Assembly. According to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the legal status of a State could never be altered by foreign aggression. Furthermore, the Coalition Government was effectively leading the patriotic armed forces and people in a national struggle against foreign aggression and was constantly winning victories. The so-called "People's Republic of Kampuchea" was nothing but a product of foreign aggression, an agent of foreign authorities and a puppet régime. It could by no means represent the people of Kampuchea. His delegation considered the credentials of the delegation of Democratic Kampuchea fully in order.

9. The representative of China stated that his delegation also wished to point out once more that the fact of the representative of Afghanistan being admitted to the Conference should not be interpreted as a tacit consent by the Chinese delegation to the situation created by the armed occupation of Afghanistan by foreign forces.

10. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that his delegation considered statements made by certain representatives concerning the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan as a deliberate attempt to pervert the historical and political realities of today. Such statements could in no way deny the fact of the existence of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan which acted in the international arena as a sovereign, non-aligned State which was also a full and equal Member of the United Nations. Furthermore, statements by those representatives did not serve the interests of normalization in south-west Asia.

11. The representative of the Netherlands drew attention to the provisions of rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference and stated that the task of the Credentials Committee was a technical one: to verify whether the credentials submitted had been issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. On the basis of the information provided to the Committee, it appeared that the credentials of representatives listed in the memorandum by the Secretary-General of the Conference was in order. He therefore proposed that they be accepted by the Committee.

12. The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany associated his delegation fully with the statement made by the representative of the Netherlands.
13. The representative of Fiji also associated his delegation with the points made by the representative of the Netherlands. He stated that the task of the Credentials Committee was a technical one which should not be clouded by political issues; the only question was whether credentials were submitted in conformity with the relevant rules.
14. The representative of the Bahamas agreed with the views expressed by the representatives of the Netherlands, the Federal Republic of Germany and Fiji.
15. The Presiding Officer then proposed that, taking into account the statements made by members of the Committee, which would be reflected in the Committee's report, the Committee adopt the following resolution:

"The Credentials Committee,

"Having examined the credentials of representatives to the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,

"Taking into account the various statements made by delegations during the debate,

"1. Accepts the credentials of representatives submitted in accordance with rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference;

"2. Accepts as provisional credentials the other communications received and reported to the Committee on the understanding that credentials in due form as required under rule 3 of the rules of procedure would be promptly submitted to the Secretary-General of the Conference by the authorities concerned;

"3. Recommends to the Conference that it approve the report of the Credentials Committee."

16. The resolution proposed by the Presiding Officer was adopted by the Committee.
17. Subsequently, the Presiding Officer proposed that the Committee recommend to the Conference the adoption of a draft resolution (see para. 20 below). The proposal was approved by the Committee.
18. The Committee also decided to authorize its Presiding Officer to prepare its report for submission to the Conference and to supplement that report at the appropriate time if any additional credentials or communications were received subsequent to the meeting of the Credentials Committee.
19. In the light of the foregoing, the present report is submitted to the Conference.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

20. The Credentials Committee recommends to the Conference the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Credentials of representatives to the International Conference
on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development

"The Conference,

"Having examined the report of the Credentials Committee,

"Approves the report of the Credentials Committee."
