

# **United Nations Conference on Consular Relations**

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## **Report of the Credentials Committee**

Extract from Volume II of the *Official Records of the United Nations Conference on Consular Relations*  
(Annexes, Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, Final Act, Optional Protocols, Resolutions)

**DOCUMENT A/CONF.25/L.37****Report of the Credentials Committee**

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1. At its second plenary meeting, held on 5 March 1963, the Conference appointed the Credentials Committee consisting of the following States: Canada, El Salvador, Greece, Guinea, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America.

2. The Credentials Committee met on 16 April 1963. The Committee unanimously elected Mr. G. Sicotte (Canada) as Chairman.

3. The Secretariat reported to the Committee as follows:

(a) Credentials for the representatives of the following States issued by the Head of State or Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs had been submitted to the Executive Secretary of the Conference in accordance with rule 3 of the rules of procedure: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Canada, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Federal Republic of Germany, Federation of Malaya, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Holy See, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Viet-Nam, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

(b) In respect of the representatives of Belgium, Guinea, Madagascar and Upper Volta, an authorization to represent their Governments at the Conference had been received by cablegram emanating from the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(c) The names of representatives of the following States had been submitted to the Executive Secretary of the Conference in communications emanating from the respective Permanent Missions to the United Nations or Embassies in Vienna: Dominican Republic, Honduras, Iran, Iraq, Morocco.

(d) No credentials or communications had been received in respect of the representatives of Burundi and Jordan. The Secretariat had been informed that credentials for the representatives concerned would be submitted before the end of the Conference.

(e) Credentials had also been received for observers from Guatemala and Paraguay.

4. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics raised the question of the representation of China and asserted that only representatives appointed by the Government of the People's Republic of China were qualified to represent China at the Conference. He further stated that the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics could not recognize credentials submitted on behalf of China by any other persons and requested that these credentials should be considered as not valid.

5. The Chairman referred to General Assembly resolution 1685 (XVI) in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to convoke the Conference on Consular Relations and invited States Members of the United Nations, States members of the specialized agencies and States parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice to participate in the Conference. As the Secretary-General had, pursuant to the said resolution, invited the Government of the Republic of China to attend the Conference, the only question within the competence of the Credentials Committee was whether the credentials issued by the Government of the Republic of China were in proper order. The Chairman then stated that since those credentials were issued in accordance with rule 3 of the rules of procedure, the proposal of the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was out of order.

6. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics challenged the Chairman's ruling. The Committee upheld the Chairman's ruling by 6 votes to 3.

7. The representative of the United States of America reserved his Government's position in regard to the credentials of the Hungarian delegation.

8. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that the reservation made by the representative of the United States of America was groundless.

9. The Chairman proposed that the Credentials Committee should find the received credentials of all representatives in order and submit to the Conference a report with the recommendation for its approval.

10. This proposal was adopted unanimously.

11. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that his vote in favour of the report of the Credentials Committee should not be interpreted as a change in his delegation's position in regard to the representation of China.

12. Accordingly, the Credentials Committee recommends that the Conference approve its Report.