

# **Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea**

1973-1982

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Document:-

**A/CONF.62/97**

## **Report of the Credentials Committee**

Extract from the *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, Volume XIII (Summary Records, Plenary, General Committee, First and Third Committees, as well as Documents of the Conference, Ninth Session)*

## DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/97\*

## Report of the Credentials Committee

[Original: English]  
[31 March 1980]

1. The Credentials Committee held its 12th meeting on 31 March 1980. Representatives of all the members of the Committee except Chad were present.

2. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Executive Secretary of the Conference, dated 26 March 1980, indicating that as of that date communications had been received concerning 149 States participating in the session, and Namibia (United Nations Council for Namibia).

3. Credentials in the form provided for by rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference had been submitted to the Executive Secretary by the following 116 States: Algeria, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Péru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, St. Lucia, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia.

4. The appointment of the representatives of five States: Albania, Argentina, Costa Rica, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Solomon Islands had been communicated to the Executive Secretary by telegram from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs concerned.

5. The appointment of the representatives of the following 28 countries had been communicated to the Executive Secretary by letters, cables or notes verbales: Afghanistan, Angola,

Australia, Benin, Bhutan, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Colombia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Grenada, Ivory Coast, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Qatar, Rwanda, Upper Volta and Venezuela.

6. The Executive Secretary informed the Committee that, subsequent to the preparation of his memorandum, credentials in due form had been received from Australia, Dominica and Japan, and communications had been received from Burundi, Mauritania and Samoa.

7. The Chairman proposed that, in the light of past practice, the Committee should accept the credentials referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 above and that, as an exceptional measure and subject to later validation, it should accept the communications referred to in paragraph 5 above in lieu of formal credentials.

8. The representative of Hungary recorded his delegation's objection to the acceptance of the credentials of the delegation of Democratic Kampuchea, stating that, in the view of the Hungarian delegation, these credentials were null and void.

9. The representative of China objected to the statement by the representative of Hungary, stating that, in the view of the Chinese delegation, the credentials of Democratic Kampuchea were valid.

10. The Chairman noted that the views and reservations expressed would be reflected in the report of the Committee. Subject to these views and reservations, summarized in paragraphs 8 and 9 above, the Committee decided to approve the following draft resolution.

*"The Credentials Committee,*

*"Taking into account the views expressed during the debate;*

*"Accepts the formal credentials of the representatives that have been received;*

*"Accepts as an exceptional measure and subject to later validation, the communications referred to in paragraph 6 of the Executive Secretary's Memorandum of 26 March 1980 in lieu of formal credentials."*

\*Incorporating document A/CONF.62/97/Corr. 1, dated 9 April 1979.

## DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/98

Letter dated 29 March 1980 from the representative of Italy to the President of the Conference

[Original: English]  
[31 March 1980]

In my capacity as representative of the State which currently holds the presidency of the Council of Ministers of the European Communities, I wish to take position on important issues of common interest for the member States.

I recall that member States of the Community have agreed to transfer competences to the European Economic Community in various and important fields. By way of example I might mention those concerning conservation and utilization of marine living resources, the protection and preservation of the marine environment and commercial policy.

The documents introduced to the Conference and the statements made by the Community representatives have already referred to such competences. In this respect I may mention the declaration made at the 95th plenary meeting on 1 May 1978,

by the head of delegation of Denmark, who spoke in his capacity as representative of the State holding the presidency of the Council of Ministers of the European Communities,<sup>2</sup> during the debate on the preamble and final clauses of the future convention, and the letters addressed to you by my predecessors in the presidency of the Nine, Mr. Riphagen, Mr. Logan and Mr. Wolff.

It follows from this transfer of competences that a most important inclusion which we wish to be made in the conven-

<sup>2</sup>See Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, vol. IX (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.V.3).