

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

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## **Credentials of representative to the seventh session; report of the Credentials Committee**

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Credentials of representative to the seventh session: report of the Credentials Committee

Chairman: Mr. Karl WOLF (Austria)

1. The Credentials Committee held its 7th meeting on 17 May 1978. Representatives of all the members of the Committee except Chad, Costa Rica and the Ivory Coast were present.
2. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Executive Secretary of the Conference, dated 16 May 1978, indicating that as of that date communications had been received concerning 142 States participating in the session.
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 118 States: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, 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, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Surinam, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, 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, Upper Volta, Yemen and Zambia.
4. The appointment of the representatives of five States: Angola, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Gabon and Uruguay, 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 17 States had been communicated to the Executive Secretary by letter, telegram or note verbale: Afghanistan, Algeria, Central African Empire, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nauru, Panama, Romania, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Venezuela, Viet Nam and Zaire.

6. The Executive Secretary informed the Committee that, subsequent to the preparation of his memorandum, credentials in due form had been received from Egypt and Yugoslavia.

7. The Executive Secretary also informed the Committee that further to the credentials submitted by the Republic of Comoros, dated 25 March 1978, there was a telegram received from the Comoros, dated 20 April 1978, designating Mr. Doudou Diop of Senegal to represent Comoros with the right to vote, and signed on behalf of the Minister of External Affairs. Upon receipt of this telegram the Executive Secretary responded, by a telegram dated 25 April 1978, drawing the attention of the Foreign Ministry of the Comoros to the fact that Article 3 of the Rules of Procedure required that credentials giving full powers must be signed either by the Head of State or Government, or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Having received no communication from the Government of Comoros, the Executive Secretary sent a reminder on 17 May 1978 and there has been no response to date. On the basis of the foregoing information the Committee decided to accept the original credentials submitted by Comoros, signed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

8. The Chairman proposed that, in light of the past practice of the Committee, 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 accept the communications referred to in paragraph 5 above in lieu of formal credentials.

9. The Committee unanimously adopted the Chairman's proposal and recommended to the Conference the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Credentials of representatives to the seventh session of the  
Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea

"The Conference

"Approves the report of the Credentials Committee."