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United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination

New York, 16 February, 27-31 March and 15 June-7 July 2017

Agenda item 7 (b)

Credentials of representatives to the conference: report of the Credentials Committee

Report of the Credentials Committee

Chair: Mr. Lot **Dzonzi** (Malawi)

Vice-Chair: Ms. Rebecca **Hallin** (Sweden)

1. Rule 4 of the rules of procedure of the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination, provides that:

A Credentials Committee of five members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting of the March session, held on 27 March 2017, the conference, in accordance with rule 4 of its rules of procedure, appointed a Credentials Committee consisting of the following States: Azerbaijan, Malawi, Paraguay, Sri Lanka and Sweden.

3. The Committee held two meetings, on 30 March and 6 July 2017.

4. The representative of Malawi, Mr. Lot Dzonzi, was elected Chair at the first meeting, held on 30 March. The representative of Sweden, Ms. Rebecca Hallin, was elected Vice-Chair at the second meeting, held on 6 July.

5. At its second meeting, the Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General of the conference dated 5 July 2017 concerning the credentials of representatives of States to the conference. A representative of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat made a statement relating to the memorandum.

6. As noted in paragraph 1 of the memorandum, formal credentials of representatives to the conference in the form required under rule 3 of the rules of procedure had been submitted to the Secretary-General of the conference, as at the time of the meeting of the Committee, by the following 77 States: Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cabo Verde,



Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Holy See, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

7. As indicated in paragraph 2 of the memorandum, information concerning the appointment of representatives of States to the conference had been communicated to the Secretary-General of the conference, as at the time of the meeting of the Committee, by means of a facsimile communication from the Head of State or Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs, or by means of a letter or note verbale from the ministry, embassy or mission concerned, by the following 52 States: Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Colombia, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nauru, Nicaragua, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

8. As indicated in paragraph 3 of the memorandum, the Secretary-General of the conference had not received formal credentials or information mentioned in paragraph 2 of the memorandum from the following 66 States invited to participate in the conference: Albania, Australia, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Croatia, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mali, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Sudan, Spain, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uzbekistan.

9. The Vice-Chair recommended that the Committee accept the credentials of the representatives of all States listed in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the above-mentioned memorandum, as updated, on the understanding that formal credentials for representatives of the States referred to in paragraph 2 of the memorandum and, where applicable, those for representatives of the States referred to in paragraph 3 of the memorandum, as updated, would be communicated to the Secretary-General of the conference as soon as possible.

10. The Vice-Chair proposed the following draft resolution for adoption by the Committee:

The Credentials Committee,

Having examined the credentials of the representatives to the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination,

Accepts the credentials of the representatives of the States referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General of the conference.

11. The draft resolution was adopted without a vote.
12. The Vice-Chair then proposed that the Committee recommend to the conference the adoption of a draft resolution entitled “Credentials of representatives to the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination” (see para. 14). The proposal was adopted without a vote.
13. In the light of the foregoing, the present report is submitted to the conference.

Recommendation of the Credentials Committee

14. The Credentials Committee recommends to the conference the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Credentials of representatives to the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination

The United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination,

Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein,¹

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.

¹ A/CONF.229/2017/7.