



General Assembly

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Intergovernmental conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction

Third session

New York, 19–30 August 2019

Agenda item 4

Credentials of representatives

Third report of the Credentials Committee

Chair: Carl Grainger (Ireland)

1. At the organizational meeting of the intergovernmental conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction held from 16 to 18 April 2018, the conference decided that the rules of procedure and the established practice of the General Assembly, as modified by Assembly resolution [72/249](#), would apply mutatis mutandis to the conference.
2. Rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides as follows:
A Credentials Committee shall be appointed at the beginning of each session. It shall consist of nine members, who shall be appointed by the General Assembly on the proposal of the President. The Committee shall elect its own officers. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report without delay.
3. At the first plenary meeting of the organizational meeting, held on 16 April 2018, the conference decided that the composition of the Credentials Committee of the conference would follow the composition of the Credentials Committee of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly and appointed Cabo Verde, China, Dominica, Indonesia, Ireland, the Russian Federation, Uganda, the United States of America and Uruguay as members of the Credentials Committee for the entire duration of the conference.
4. The Credentials Committee held its third meeting on 28 August 2019.
5. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General dated 27 August 2019 concerning the credentials of representatives to the third session of



the conference. The representative of the Office of Legal Affairs made a statement related to the memorandum.

6. As indicated in paragraph 1 of the memorandum of the Secretary-General, formal credentials of representatives to the third session of the conference, in the form required under rule 27 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, had been submitted to the Secretary-General, as at the time of the meeting of the committee, by the European Union and the following 79 States: Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tonga, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

7. As indicated in paragraph 2 of the memorandum, information concerning the appointment of representatives to the third session of the conference had been communicated to the Secretary-General, 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 mission concerned, by the following 52 States: Albania, Angola, Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Eswatini, Fiji, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Palau, Panama, Republic of Korea, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Yemen.

8. The Chair of the Credentials Committee recommended that the Committee accept the credentials of the representatives of the European Union and the States listed in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the above-mentioned memorandum on the understanding that formal credentials of representatives of States referred to in paragraph 2 of the memorandum, as well as other States that had not yet submitted formal credentials, where applicable, would be communicated to the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

9. The Chair proposed the following draft resolution for adoption by the Committee:

The Credentials Committee,

Having examined the credentials of the representatives to the third session of the intergovernmental conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction,

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

10. The draft resolution proposed by the Chair was adopted without a vote.

11. The representative of the United States of America dissociated from the adoption of the Committee's resolution, solely with respect to the acceptance of the credentials submitted by the Maduro regime on behalf of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.
12. The Chair then proposed that the Committee recommend to the conference the adoption of a draft resolution entitled "Credentials of representatives to the intergovernmental conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction" (see para. 14 below). 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 intergovernmental conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction

The intergovernmental conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction,

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

Approves the third report of the Credentials Committee.
