



Provisional Record Ninety-second Session, Geneva, 2004

Report of the Credentials Committee

First report

1. The Credentials Committee of the 92nd Session of the Conference is composed of Mr. Jules Medenou Oni, Government delegate, Benin, Chairperson; Ms. Lucia Sasso Mazzufferi, Employers' delegate, Italy; and Mr. Ulf Edström, Workers' delegate, Sweden.

Composition of the Conference

- **2.** Since the signing of the brief report presented by the Chairperson of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office (*Provisional Record No. 6A*), the composition of the Conference has been modified as follows.
- **3.** Of the 177 member States of the International Labour Organization, 165 are represented at the Conference, that is, eight more than were accredited at the time that the brief report was signed. These are Bahamas, Belize, Equatorial Guinea, Haiti, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Paraguay and Somalia.

Accredited delegates and advisers

- **4.** A total of 644 delegates, including 327 Government delegates, 158 Employers' delegates and 159 Workers' delegates, have been accredited.
- **5.** A total of 2,109 advisers, including 1,028 Government advisers, 480 Employers' advisers and 601 Workers' advisers, have been accredited.
- **6.** Therefore a total of 2,753 delegates and advisers have been accredited.
- 7. With regard to the resolution, adopted by the Conference at its 67th Session in June 1981, concerning the participation of women in ILO meetings, 100 and 540 of the 644 delegates and 2,109 advisers, respectively, accredited to the Conference are women. Women delegates represent no more than 15.5 per cent of total delegates, against 12.18 per cent last year. Therefore a total of 640 women have been accredited to the Conference, which is 23.24 per cent of total delegates and advisers against 20.44 per cent last year. The Committee deplores the fact that this percentage remains low but is pleased to note a slight increase compared to last year.

Registered delegates and advisers

- **8.** The following is the current status of the registration of delegates, which (in accordance with the practice approved at this session of the Conference) is the basis for determining the quorum for voting (see attached table established this day at 4 p.m.).
- **9.** Currently 544 delegates, including 292 Government delegates, 129 Employers' delegates and 123 Workers' delegates are registered.
- **10.** In addition, 1,697 advisers, including 888 Government advisers, 372 Employers' advisers and 437 Workers' advisers are registered.

Incomplete and non-accredited delegations

- **11.** The Committee notes that, to date, 12 member States have not sent a delegation (Antigua and Barbuda, Comoros, Dominica, Gambia, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Solomon Islands, Turkmenistan and Vanuatu). It further notes that, at the present time, the accredited delegations of five countries (Belize, Kyrgyzstan, Somalia, Timor-Leste and Uzbekistan) are exclusively governmental. Two countries (Eritrea and Liberia) have a Workers' delegate but no Employers' delegate, and one country (Myanmar) has an Employers' delegate but no Workers' delegate. The Committee regrets that so many delegations are either incomplete or not accredited and wishes to affirm once again the necessity for governments to comply with the requirement of article 3 of the Constitution to send a complete tripartite delegation to the Conference. The Committee recalls that, pursuant to a decision of the Governing Body, each year the Director-General requests the governments of all member States, which did not send a delegation or only sent an incomplete delegation to the Conference, to indicate the reasons for their failure to do so. It also recalls that the information received in reply to that request is duly forwarded to the Governing Body.
- **12.** The Committee also notes that the number of advisers in each group is not evenly balanced; in particular, there are fewer Employers' advisers (372) than Workers' advisers (437). It once again urges governments to pay more attention to the relative proportions of the various categories of delegation members when making nominations to the Conference, as envisaged in article 3, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Constitution. The Committee further recalls the request contained in the resolution, adopted by the Conference at its 56th Session in 1971, concerning the strengthening of tripartism in the overall activities of the International Labour Organization, and hopes that governments will accord equal treatment to each of the groups when appointing advisers to their country's delegation to the Conference. The Committee recalls in this connection the Members' obligation under article 13, paragraph 2(a), of the Constitution, to pay the travelling and subsistence expenses of their delegates and advisers and trusts that this obligation will be respected for the duration of the Conference.

Quorum

- **13.** Eighteen advisers, who are also substitutes to delegates not registered, have been taken into account in calculating the voting strength of the Conference.
- 14. Seventeen member States, as opposed to 13 at the same time last year, represented at the Conference are in arrears in their financial contributions to the Organization under the terms of article 13, paragraph 4, of the Constitution and therefore may not, at present, participate in the voting in the Conference or its committees. These are Armenia,

Azerbaijan, Djibouti, Georgia, Haiti, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Paraguay, Peru, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Suriname, Tajikistan, Togo and Uzbekistan. Since publication in the brief report (*Provisional Record No. 6A*) of the list of countries not allowed to vote, the delegations of Haiti, Paraguay and Somalia have been accredited. Therefore 37 registered delegates have not been taken into account in fixing the quorum. Three delegates from countries entitled to vote (Eritrea, Liberia and Myanmar) are also excluded, in accordance with article 4, paragraph 2, of the ILO Constitution, because their national delegations are incomplete. According to this article "if one of the Members fails to nominate one of the non-Government delegates whom it is entitled to nominate, the other non-Government delegate shall be allowed to sit and speak at the Conference, but not to vote".

- **15.** At the present time the quorum required to give a vote validity is 261. This number represents 544 registered delegates (see paragraph 9 above), plus 18 substitute delegates (paragraph 13 above) minus 40 registered delegates not entitled to vote (see paragraph 14 above), the total being divided by two. The Committee appeals to the delegates to the Conference to register in person upon their arrival and to give timely notice of their departure date, in order to ensure that the quorum is as accurate as possible and that they are not counted as present when they are in fact absent from the Conference.
- **16.** The Committee still regrets the fact that so many member States are in arrears in their payments, thereby depriving the Employers' and Workers' delegations from exercising their right to vote.

Observer, organizations and liberation movement invited

- **17.** The Conference is also being attended by:
 - representatives of one observer delegation (the Holy See) invited by the Conference;
 - a tripartite delegation of a liberation movement (Palestine) invited in conformity with article 2, paragraph 3(k), of the Standing Orders of the Conference;
 - representatives of the United Nations and some of its bodies invited by virtue of Article II, paragraph (1), concerning reciprocal representation, of the Agreement between the United Nations and the International Labour Organization, which came into effect on 14 December 1946;
 - representatives of specialized agencies and other official international organizations, invited in conformity with article 2, paragraph 3(b), of the Standing Orders of the Conference;
 - representatives of non-governmental international organizations with which consultative relations have been established, invited in conformity with article 2, paragraph 3(j), of the Standing Orders of the Conference;
 - representatives of other non-governmental international organizations also invited in conformity with article 2, paragraph 3(j), of the Standing Orders of the Conference.
- **18.** A list of these representatives is appended to the *List of Delegations* published as a supplement to the *Provisional Record* of the Conference and will be updated in the *Second Revised List of Delegations* to be issued on 9 June.

Objections, complaints and communications

- **19.** To date, the Committee has before it several objections, complaints and communications. It has forthwith commenced their examination. The Committee believes that its work was facilitated by the fact that a substantial number of credentials had reached the Office prior to the Conference. Further, it is important that governments utilize the credentials form enclosed with the letter of convocation to the Conference, which is sent to governments every year, or the electronic version made available by the Office. This year, however, 44 per cent of member States did not use the forms. In order to comply with article 3, paragraph 5, of the Constitution, governments should provide accurate information on the employers' and workers' organizations consulted in nominating Employers' and Workers' delegates and advisers, as well as on the organizations that have agreed to such nominations.
- **20.** The Committee further recalls that, in order to fulfil its mandate, two years ago it had urged all governments to indicate in their credentials the organizations to which each of the Employers' and Workers' delegates and advisers belonged, as well as their functions within those organizations. However despite the urgent call made by the Chairperson in his brief report, eight governments (Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Congo, Guyana, Kazakhstan, Mauritius and Swaziland) have not provided the required information for all of the Employers' and Workers' delegates and advisers. The Committee therefore urges these governments to complete this information as soon as possible and hopes that in future sessions of the Conference such information will be provided on time for publication in the *Provisional List of Delegations*, which in accordance with article 26, 4(a), of the Standing Orders, serves as the basis for the submission of objections to credentials.
- **21.** The Credentials Committee submits the present report to the Conference so that it may take note of it.

Geneva, 3 June 2004.

(Signed) Mr. Jules Medenou Oni, Chairperson.

Ms. Lucia Sasso Mazzufferi.

Mr. Ulf Edström.

- 1) Government delegates
- 4) Employers' Advisers
- 2) Government advisers
- 3) Employers' delegates
- 5) Workers' delegates
- 6) Workers' Advisers

List of registered delegates and advisers

	1) 2) 3) 4) 5) 6)	1	1) 2) 3) 4) 5) 6)	1) 2) .	3) 4)	5) 6)	1) 2) 3) 4) 5) 6)
Afghanistan	121-1-	Dominican Republic	271211	Liberia	1 1		1	Sevchelles	2 -	1 1	1 -
Albania	261311	Ecuador	241-1-		25	1 1	- 2				
Algeria	1413-4	Egypt	271417	Lithuania	2 3	12	1 1	Singapore	28	1 1	18
Angola	2 1 1 2 1 2	El Salvador	2 2 1 1		-	- 2		- 544	2 6	1 2	1 2
Antigua and Barbuda		Equatorial Guinea		Madagascar	2 3	1 1	1 1	Slovenia	1 5	1 -	1 -
Argentina	2519-3	Eritrea	2 1 2	5	-		1 1	Solomon Islands		· .	·
Armenia	1 1	Estonia	22-1-1		2 12	1 1	1 10		2 -		
Australia	26-111	Ethiopia	2 3 1 1 1 1	,	- 1	1 1	- 1	South Africa	29	17	14
Austria	2311-3		2 - 1 - 1 -		26	13	1 6		2 10		• •
Azerbaijan	1	Finland	251414			1 -		•	2 3	-	14
Bahamas	2 - 1 - 1 1	France		Mauritius	24	•			23		• •
Bahrain	25-212	Gabon	261	Mexico		- 6			2 -	1 1	1 -
Bangladesh	2 4 1 - 1 -	Gambia	201	Republic of Moldova	2 1	-	1 1	Swaziland	2 1	1 2	1 1
Barbados	1 2 1 - 1 1	Georgia	2 - 1 7	Mongolia	2 2	1 1 1 1	1 1	Sweden		. –	15
Belarus	24 12	Georgia		Morocco		14	- 6		2 6		
Belgium	1 8 1 5 1 6			Morocco	23	- 1	- 0	- Syrian Arab Republic			
Belgium.	2				24 28	- I 1	1	, ,	2 5	IЭ	13
	-	Greece	213 - 6 110	Myanmar		1 -		- Tajikistan			
Benin	· ·	Grenada		Namibia		12	1 2				
Bolivia	201	Guatemala	261-	Topa		1 -	1	- Thailand	2 10		15
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2 1 1 - 1 -	Guinea	23-111			15	1 5		22	1 -	1 -
Botswana	281-1-	Guinea-Bissau		New Zealand		1 1	1 1	Democratic Rep. of Timor-Leste	2 -		
Brazil	2101817	Guyana	1 - 1 - 1 -	Nourugua		1 1	1 4	- 5 -	21		15
Bulgaria	271713	Haiti	2 2 1 1 1 1		24	1 1	1 3	5	26		
Burkina Faso	251-12	Honduras		Nigeria	- 0	16	- 4		-	12	-
Burundi		Hungary	2121717	···-,	25	14	1 4			1 10	15
Cambodia	2 1 1 - 1 5	Iceland		Oman	-	15	1 2				
Cameroon	1611-2	India	291917		23	1 -		- Uganda	27		1 -
Canada	2131416	Indonesia		Panama	• -	12	1 2		25	-	12
Cape Verde		Islamic Republic of Iran		Papua New Guinea		1 -	1	- United Arab Emirates			1 1
Central African Republic	2 - 1	Iraq	261213	Paraguay	23	1 -	-	- United Kingdom	2 15		15
Chad	251-11	Ireland	2191111	Peru	23	1 -	- 1	United States	2 16	15	18
Chile	251418	Israel	2121 - 1 -	Philippines	22	13	1 3	B Uruguay	25	1 1	1 1
China	218 1 6 1 9	Italy	2151314	Poland	28	12	15	Uzbekistan	2 -		
Colombia	2161615	Jamaica	251115	Portugal	28	17	15	Vanuatu			
Comoros		Japan	2201619	Qatar	25	- 1	1	Venezuela	27	18	14
Congo	215118	Jordan	261-12	Romania	23	15	1 7	Viet Nam	25	12	13
Costa Rica	251-1-	Kazakhstan	2 2 1 1 1 1	Russian Federation	2 12	12	16	Yemen	23		12
Côte d'Ivoire	21011-5	Kenya	211 1 6 1 5	Rwanda	- 1		-	Zambia	25	13	12
Croatia	2 2 1 - 1 1		2 - 1 - 1 -	Saint Kitts and Nevis				Zimbabwe	29	- 1	13
Cuba	281117	Republic of Korea	21918-5	Saint Lucia			-	_	•		•
Cyprus	2312-1	Kuwait	2131214	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.				1) 2) 3)	4)	5)	6)
Czech Republic	2813-4	Kyrgyzstan	2	San Marino	2 1	1 -	- 1	<u>Total</u> 292 888 129	372	123	437
Democratic Republic of the Congo	- 1 - 4 - 2	Lao People's Dem. Republic		Sao Tome and Principe				-			
Denmark	161316	Latvia	2 - 1 - 1 -	•	28	1 1	1 3	3			
Diibouti		Lebanon	2816-1	Senegal	2 2	1 2					
Dominica		Lesotho		Serbia and Montenegro							
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