



Reports of the Credentials Committee

First report

1. The Credentials Committee of the 94th Session of the Conference is composed of Mr. Chiedozie Ezeasor, Government delegate, Nigeria, Chairperson; Mr. Guy Sulpice, Employers' delegate, France; and Mr. Pdraig Crumlin, Workers' delegate, Australia.

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. 2A), the composition of the Conference has been modified as follows.
3. Of the 178 member States of the International Labour Organization, 104 (58.4 per cent) are represented at the Conference, that is, 11 more than were accredited at the time that the brief report was signed.¹ These are Albania, Bolivia, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Oman, Paraguay and Tunisia.

Accredited delegates and advisers

4. A total of 372 delegates, including 203 Government delegates, 85 Employers' delegates and 84 Workers' delegates, have been accredited.
5. A total of 380 advisers, including 255 Government advisers, 59 Employers' advisers and 66 Workers' advisers, have been accredited.
6. Therefore a total of 752 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, 52 of the 372 delegates and 80 of the 380 advisers accredited to the Conference are women. Women delegates represent no more than 13.9 per cent of total delegates. Therefore, a total of 132 women have been accredited to the Conference, which is 17.5 per cent of total delegates and advisers, which is a significant improvement compared to the last Maritime Session of the Conference in 1996 during which 9.8 per cent of delegates and advisers were women.

¹ This represents an increase compared to the 84th Session (Maritime) in 1996, as 48.3 per cent of the member States were represented at that session.

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8. The Committee notes that 47 member States have deposited their credentials within the time prescribed under article 26 of the Standing Orders of the Conference.
 9. The Committee notes that 21 member States have submitted their credentials on line.² It again encourages the Governments to avail themselves of the possibility in future, so as to expedite the accreditation process.

Registered delegates and advisers

10. The following is the current status of the registration of delegates, which is the basis for determining the quorum for voting (see attached table established Thursday, 9 February 2006 at 16:00 hours).
11. Currently, 303 delegates, including 162 Government delegates, 67 Employers' delegates and 74 Workers' delegates are registered.
12. In addition, 287 advisers, including 203 Government advisers, 37 Employers' advisers and 47 Workers' advisers are registered.

Incomplete and non-accredited delegations

13. The Committee notes that, to date, 74 member States have not sent a delegation. It further notes that, at the present time, the accredited delegations of 18 countries (Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cambodia, Congo, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Paraguay, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe) are exclusively governmental. One country (Côte d'Ivoire) has a Workers' delegate but no Employers' delegate, and two countries (Ethiopia and the Islamic Republic of Iran) have an Employers' delegate but no Workers' delegate. The Committee regrets that so many delegations are either not accredited or incomplete 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 by the Office to the Governing Body. The Committee would encourage those governments that have not done so to provide the relevant information.
14. The Committee also notes that there are 37 Employers' advisers and 47 Workers' advisers. In this regard, the Committee 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, so as to permit them to effectively follow the work of the various committees of 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.

² The credentials online are available at <<http://ilc.ilo.org/credentials/index.asp>>.

Quorum

15. Ten advisers, who are also substitutes to delegates not registered, have been taken into account in calculating the voting strength of the Conference.
16. Seven member States 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 Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Cambodia, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea-Bissau and Peru. Since publication in the brief report (*Provisional Record* No. 2A) of the list of countries not allowed to vote, the delegations of one have been accredited. Therefore ten registered delegates have not been taken into account in fixing the quorum. Three delegates from countries entitled to vote (Côte d’Ivoire, Ethiopia and the Islamic Republic of Iran) 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”.
17. At the present time the quorum required to give a vote validity is 151. This number represents 303 registered delegates (see paragraph 11 above), plus ten substitute delegates (paragraph 15 above) minus 13 registered delegates not entitled to vote (see paragraph 16 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.
18. 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

19. The Conference is also being attended by:
 - representatives of one observer delegation (the Holy See) invited by the Conference;
 - a 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;

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- representatives of other non-governmental international organizations also invited in conformity with article 2, paragraph 3(j), of the Standing Orders of the Conference.

20. 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 *Revised List of Delegations* to be issued on Wednesday, 15 February 2006.

Objections, complaints and communications

21. At the signing of this report, no objection, complaint or communication had been received by the Committee.
22. In order to permit it to fulfil its mandate, the Committee recalled that all governments are urged to indicate in their credentials the organizations to which each of the Employers' and Workers' delegates and advisers belong, as well as their functions within those organizations. However, despite the urgent call made by the Chairperson of the Governing Body in the brief report, two governments (India and Ireland) 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 26bis, paragraph 1(a), of the Standing Orders,³ serves as the basis for the submission of objections to credentials.
23. The Committee welcomes the new database⁴ on the verification of credentials and invites all interested parties to make full use of it.
24. The Credentials Committee submits the present report to the Conference so that it may take note of it.

Geneva, 9 February 2006.

(Signed) Mr. Chiedozie Ezeasor,
Chairperson.

Mr. Guy Sulpice.

Mr. Pdraig Crumlin.

³ Interim provisions concerning verification of credentials adopted by the Conference at its 92nd (June 2004) Session and effective from the 93rd (June 2005) Session to the 96th (June 2007) Session of the International Labour Conference.

⁴ The database is available at <<http://www.ilo.org/dyn/creds/credsbrowse.home>>.

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