



Reports of the Credentials Committee

Brief report presented by the Chairperson of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office on the credentials of the delegates and advisers to the 96th Session of the International Labour Conference (Geneva, 29 May 2007)

1. The composition of each delegation and the procedure for appointing delegates and advisers to sessions of the International Labour Conference are governed by article 3 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization.
2. In accordance with paragraphs 8 and 9 of article 3 of the Constitution, it is for the governments to communicate the nominations to the International Labour Office. The Conference examines these nominations and decides, in the case of dispute, whether delegates and advisers have been nominated in accordance with this article of the Constitution.
3. The Conference exercises this power through the Credentials Committee in accordance with the procedure laid down in articles 5 and 26 of its Standing Orders.
4. By virtue of paragraph 2 of article 26 of the Standing Orders of the Conference: “A brief report upon these credentials, drawn up by the Chairman of the Governing Body, shall, with the credentials, be open to inspection by the delegates on the day before the opening of the session of the Conference and shall be published as an appendix to the record of the first sitting.”
5. The present report serves to provisionally fix the quorum necessary to give validity to the votes taken, in accordance with paragraph 1(2) of article 20 of the Standing Orders of the Conference.
6. The attached table, which was established on Tuesday, 29 May 2007, at 2 p.m., shows the numerical composition of the delegations to the Conference based on the credentials provided. In this regard, it should be noted that the persons who have been nominated both as substitute delegates and as advisers have been included in the table amongst the advisers.
7. To date, 168 member States have communicated the names of the members of their delegations. Eighty-nine countries (15 less than last year) deposited their credentials on or

before 15 May 2007, thus meeting the 15-day deadline before the date fixed for the opening of the Conference, in compliance with paragraph 1 of article 26 of the Standing Orders of the Conference. The *First Provisional List of Delegations*, which appears on the opening day of the Conference, contains the names of the accredited participants received as of Tuesday, 29 May 2007, at 2 p.m.

8. Furthermore, while the Conference and the Credentials Committee have previously insisted on the obligation which article 3 of the Constitution imposes on governments requiring them to send complete delegations to the Conference, four member States (Belize, Gambia, Haiti, and Saint Kitts and Nevis) have accredited delegations exclusively composed of Government delegates. In addition, two member States (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Somalia) have appointed an Employers' delegate but no Workers' delegate, while two other member States (Afghanistan and Nicaragua) have appointed a Workers' delegate but no Employers' delegate.
9. Seven member States (Afghanistan, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Iraq, Lesotho, Malawi, Sao Tome and Principe) have not yet mentioned in their communications the organizations to which their Employers' and Workers' delegates and advisers belong or their respective functions. These governments are urged to complete this information as soon as possible.
10. Sixty-six governments (11 more than last year) have not confirmed that they would cover their delegates' and advisers' travel and subsistence expenses, in accordance with paragraph 2(a) of article 13 of the Constitution. In this regard, in order to ensure greater clarity in establishing the credentials, it is advisable that governments use the form enclosed with the letter of convocation to the Conference which the Office addresses every year to member States or the *On-line Credentials*¹ application made available by the Office.
11. Finally, I urge all delegates and advisers to get registered at the Registration Desk that is located at the Pavilion, which is near the ILO building, since the daily quorum is calculated on the basis of the number of delegates actually registered.

Composition of the Conference and quorum

12. At present 335 Government delegates, 162 Employers' delegates and 162 Workers' delegates – a total of 659 delegates – are accredited to the Conference.
13. There are, in addition, 1,017 Government advisers, 475 Employers' advisers and 595 Workers' advisers – a total of 2,087 advisers.
14. A total of 2,746 delegates and advisers have been nominated to take part in the work of the Conference in conformity with the provisions of the Constitution of the Organization.
15. Amongst those member States currently accredited, 15 are in arrears in the payment of their contributions to the Organization. Those Members, under the terms of paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution, may not at present participate in the voting of the Conference or any of its committees (Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Sao Tome and Principe, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Tajikistan and Uganda). Therefore, 55 delegates are not taken into account in calculating the quorum, nor are four

¹ <http://ilc.ilo.org/credentials/index.asp>.

delegates who, in accordance with article 4, paragraph 2, of the Constitution, cannot vote owing to the incomplete nature of their respective delegations (see paragraph 8 above).

16. In conformity with article 17 of the Constitution of the Organization and article 20 of the Standing Orders of the Conference, the necessary quorum to give a vote validity is provisionally 300.²

Observers

17. At present, the Holy See has accredited an observers' delegation to the Conference.

Liberation movement and organizations invited

18. The Conference is also attended by:

- a tripartite delegation from Palestine, as a liberation movement 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 – relating to 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; and
- representatives of other non-governmental international organizations also invited in conformity with article 2, paragraph 3(j), of the Standing Orders of the Conference.

19. A list of these representatives is appended to the list of delegations published as a supplement to the *Provisional Record* of the Conference.

Geneva, 29 May 2007.

(Signed) Mr Membathisi Mdladlana,
Chairperson of the Governing Body.

² That is, half the number of accredited delegates (659) after subtraction of the number not entitled to vote on account of arrears (55) and the four delegates from incomplete delegations of Employers and Workers.

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