Geneva, 3 - 21 March 1980

CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CONFERENCE

Report of the Credentials Committee

1. At its seventh plenary meeting, on 7 March 1980, the Conference, in accordance with its Rules of Procedure, unanimously elected Ambassador Celso Antonio de Souza e Silva (Brazil) as Chairman of the Credentials Committee, and Mr. Yury Kochubey (Ukrainian SSR) as Vice-Chairman.

2. At its tenth plenary meeting, on 12 March, the Conference appointed the following countries as members of the Credentials Committee: Belgium, Cuba, Iran, Switzerland and Tunisia.

3. The Committee met for the first time on 12 March and received an oral report from the Secretary-General of the Conference concerning the status of the credentials of the 53 States Parties and eight Signatories attending the Conference.

4. It was decided to ask the Secretary-General of the Conference to remind all participants of rules 2 and 4 of the Rules of Procedure and to invite those delegations who had not yet submitted their credentials to do so at the earliest date.

5. The Committee met again on 19 March and had before it a memorandum dated 19 March submitted by the Secretary-General of the Conference on the status of the credentials, according to which:

   (a) Fifty-three States Parties and eight Signatories to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction are participating in the Conference.

   (b) As of 19 March, formal credentials as provided for by rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, had been received by the Secretary-General of the Conference from the following States Parties: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Canada, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Hungary, India, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Mexico, Mongolia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Ukrainian SSR, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, United States of America, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

   (c) Credentials of the representatives of the following States Parties had been communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference in the form of cables by the respective Foreign Ministers: Belgium, Portugal and Turkey.

GE.80-60672
(d) The designation of representatives of the following States Parties had been communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference by letters from their respective Permanent Missions in Geneva: Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Greece, Jamaica, Philippines and Zaire.

(e) In accordance with rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure, the following States Signatories had submitted written notification from their respective Permanent Missions in Geneva, to the Secretary-General of the Conference of their decision to participate and had designated representatives to the Conference: Chile, Egypt, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iraq, Morocco, Netherlands, Sri Lanka and Yemen, People's Democratic Republic of. The Federal Republic of Germany and Iraq had submitted to the Secretary-General of the Conference formal credentials.

6. The Committee examined and found acceptable the credentials of the representatives referred to in paragraph 5(b) and (c) above. With regard to the communications referred to in paragraphs 5(c) and (d), it decided, on the basis of a proposal by the Chairman, to recommend to the Conference to accept them as an exception, in lieu of formal credentials, on the understanding that this does not constitute a precedent for future review conferences.

7. At its last meeting, held on 20 March, the Committee considered and adopted unanimously the above report.