SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 2nd MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Monday, 8 September 1986, at 3.30 p.m.

President: Mr. LANG (Austria)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.55 p.m.


1. The President said that under rule 5 of the rules of procedure, the Conference was required to elect, in addition to its President, 20 Vice-Presidents, a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen for the Committee of the Whole, a Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the Drafting Committee and a Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the Credentials Committee. Rule 8 provided that the General Committee should be composed of the President of the Conference, who would act as Chairman, 20 Vice-Presidents, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, the Chairman of the Drafting Committee and the Chairman of the Credentials Committee.

2. It had been agreed in the Preparatory Committee that the 20 posts of Vice-President should be distributed as follows: three for Africa, four for Asia, four for Eastern Europe, four for Latin America and five for Western Europe and other States. Following consultations in the various regional groups, the following candidates had been proposed: for Africa, Ghana and Nigeria; for Eastern Europe, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland and the USSR; for Latin America, Costa Rica and Chile; for Western Europe and other States, Ireland, Italy, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The regional groups concerned would make known the remaining candidates (four from Asia, two from Africa and two from Latin America) as soon as possible.

3. The States Parties named were elected Vice-Presidents by acclamation.

4. The President said that, according to an understanding reached in the Preparatory Committee and reported in paragraph 4 of the Committee's report (BWC/CONF.II/11), the Committee of the Whole would be chaired by Mr. Vejvoda (Czechoslovakia), the Drafting Committee by a representative of Western countries and the Credentials Committee by a representative of the non-aligned, neutral and other States. The Western States had nominated Mr. Butler (Australia) as Chairman of the Drafting Committee and the Group of Non-Aligned, Neutral and other States had nominated Mr. Afande (Kenya) as Chairman of the Credentials Committee.

5. Messrs. Vejvoda, Butler and Afande were elected Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, the Drafting Committee and the Credentials Committee respectively, by acclamation.

6. The President, after congratulating Messrs. Vejvoda, Butler and Afande, said that it had been agreed to nominate Messrs. Camorra (Argentina) and Clerckx (Belgium) as Vice-Chairmen of the Committee of the Whole, Mr. Konstantinov (Bulgaria) as Vice-Chairman of the Drafting Committee and Mr. Laclaux (Spain) as Vice-Chairman of the Credentials Committee.

7. Messrs. Camorra, Clerckx, Konstantinov and Laclaux were elected by acclamation.
8. The PRESIDENT, after congratulating Messrs Campora, Clerckx, Konstantinov, and Lacletta, said that the Conference had thus completed its consideration of agenda item 6.

CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONFERENCE (agenda item 7)

(a) APPOINTMENT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

9. The PRESIDENT said that, under rule 3 of the rules of procedure, in addition to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Credentials Committee just elected, the Conference must appoint five further members of the Committee on the proposal of the President. On the basis of consultations, he proposed the appointment of representatives of the following three States: Cyprus, Switzerland and the Ukrainian SSR. Two members remained to be nominated.

As he heard no objection, he would take it that the Conference wished to appoint the three States he had nominated to the Credentials Committee.

11. It was so decided.

12. The PRESIDENT called on those delegations which had not already done so to present their credentials to the Secretary-General of the Conference as soon as possible.

PROGRAMME OF WORK (agenda item 9)

13. The PRESIDENT suggested that, on the following day, after the election of the remaining members, the General Committee should examine the Conference's programme of work and make recommendations on it. For the moment, the general debate could be expected to take place on Tuesday, 9, Wednesday, 10 and Monday, 15 September, Thursday, 11 and Friday, 12 being local holidays.

14. It was so decided.

15. The PRESIDENT requested those delegations which had not already done so to inscribe their names as soon as possible on the list of speakers for the general debate.

The meeting rose at 4.10 p.m.