REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

1. At its first plenary meeting on 9 September 1991, the Review Conference decided, in accordance with Rule 3 of its Rules of Procedure, to establish a Credentials Committee to examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting on 10 September 1991, the Conference elected by acclamation Ambassador W. Lang of Austria as Chairman of the Credentials Committee and Mr. Han Chung On of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as Vice-Chairman.

3. At its 3rd plenary meeting on 10 September, the Conference, in accordance with Rule 3 of the Rules of Procedure and upon the proposal of the President, appointed the following 5 States Parties as members of the Credentials Committee: Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chile, Kenya, New Zealand and Switzerland.

4. The Committee held two meetings, on 20 and 26 September 1991. At its first meeting on 20 September, it had before it a memorandum dated 20 September 1991 addressed to the Chairman of the Credentials Committee from the Secretary-General of the Conference on the status of the credentials of the representatives of the 77 States Parties participating in the Conference as of 19 September. The Committee, at that meeting, decided to request the President of the Conference to remind delegations which had not yet submitted their credentials in accordance with Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure to do so at the earliest date.
5. At its second meeting on 26 September, the Committee had before it a memorandum dated 26 September 1991 from the Secretary-General of the Conference to the Chairman of the Credentials Committee on the status of the credentials of representatives of States Parties participating in the Conference. The memorandum reads as follows:

"(a) As of 25 September 1991, 78 States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction were participating in the Third Review Conference.

"(b) As of the same date, formal credentials in due form under Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure were received by the Secretary-General of the Conference from the following 49 States Parties: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Canada, China, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Viet Nam and Yemen.

"(c) Provisional credentials of the representatives of the following 8 States Parties were communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference in the form of cables or facsimiles from their Foreign Ministers: Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, France, Honduras, Mongolia and Senegal.

"(d) The list of representatives of the following 21 States Parties were communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference by letters from their respective missions in Geneva or New York: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Ghana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Luxembouruggage, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Singapore, Spain, Tunisia, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe."
6. Subsequently, on 26 September, the Secretary-General of the Conference received credentials in due form, in accordance with Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure, for the representatives of Nigeria.

7. At its 2nd meeting, on 26 September 1991, the Credentials Committee took note of a letter addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference by the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations Office in Geneva in which he expressed his Government's reservation regarding the participation of Cyprus in the Review Conference. The Committee also took note of a letter addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference by the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations Office in Geneva in which he rejected the reservation made by Turkey concerning the participation of Cyprus in the Third Review Conference as "legally null and void with no consequences whatsoever."

8. Upon the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, taking note of the contents of the letters referred to in paragraph 7, above, to accept the credentials of the representatives of the participating States referred to in paragraphs 5 (b), (c) and (d) of the Secretary-General's above-mentioned memorandum of 26 September 1991 as well as in paragraph 6, on the understanding that those States which had not yet submitted formal credentials for their representatives as required by Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure should communicate them to the Secretary-General of the Conference at the earliest date.

9. At its second and final meeting on 26 September 1991, the Credentials Committee adopted its report to the Conference.