

CONVENTION ON WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE
ESPECIALLY AS WATERFOWL HABITAT

Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties
27 June to 4 July 1990
Montreux, Switzerland

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

1. The Credentials Committee elected by the Conference comprised the following members:

- Belgium (Mr Jean Renault)
- Egypt (Mr Gamil Atta)
- Federal Republic of Germany (Mr Karl-Günther Kolodziejczok)
- Ghana (Mr Gerald Adjongbah Punguse)
- Venezuela (Ms Mirna Quero)

Mr Renault was elected by the Committee to the post of Chairman.

2. The Committee determined the criteria to evaluate the credentials which had been submitted on the basis, inter alia, of Notification 1989/11 sent by the Bureau of the Convention to all Contracting Parties. This document included a model, proposed with the advice of the Depository, that the appropriate national authorities could follow in preparing credentials.

Notification 1989/11 stated clearly that the credentials should:

- have been issued expressly for the Fourth Meeting of the Conference;
- have been issued and signed by appropriate authorities, i.e. the Head of State, the Head of Government or the Minister responsible for Foreign Affairs; and
- confer all powers to participate and vote in the Conference.

3. Pursuant to these requirements, the Committee found the Credentials submitted by the delegates of the following Contracting Parties to be in acceptable form:

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

4. The Committee wishes to draw the attention of the Conference, as it was the case at the Second Session of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (Groningen, 1984), to the fact that it has taken a flexible and pragmatic approach in carrying out its task, especially in the acceptance of the documents which the Committee wishes to recall.

They are:

- the nature of the ordinary sessions of the Conference, as presently described under Article 6.2 of the Convention;
 - the nature of the decisions to be taken by this session of the Conference; and
 - the lack of precision of the Rules of Procedure, especially of Rule 3.1.
5. Recalling the recommendation made by the Credentials Committee of the Second Session of the Conference (Groningen, 1984), the Committee recommends that:
 - (a) the Rules of Procedure of the next session of the Conference contain more detailed provisions on credentials; and
 - (b) to that effect, the Standing Committee use as a basis the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference of Unesco, keeping in mind the Rules of Procedure of the Conferences of the Parties to the Bonn Convention and to CITES.