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**Convention to Combat
Desertification**

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
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Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Credentials of delegations

Credentials of delegations

Report of the Bureau to the Conference of the Parties

I. Introduction

1. In accordance with rule 19 of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties, “the credentials of representatives as well as the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Permanent Secretariat if possible not later than 24 hours after the opening of the session. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the Permanent Secretariat. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization.”
2. Furthermore, rule 20 of the rules of procedure provides that “the Bureau of any session shall examine the credentials and submit its report to the Conference of the Parties for decision”.
3. The present report is submitted to the Conference of the Parties in the light of the foregoing.

II. Examination of credentials

4. On 26 November 2007, the Bureau met to examine the credentials submitted by Parties to the Convention.

* Reissued for technical reasons.

5. The Bureau had before it a memorandum dated 26 November 2007 from the Executive Secretary on the status of credentials of representatives participating in the Conference. The information contained in this memorandum is reflected below.

6. As noted in the memorandum of the Executive Secretary, formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, as provided for in rule 19 of the rules of procedure, have been received by the secretariat for the representatives of the following 22 Parties participating in the Conference: Australia, Austria, Botswana, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, European Community, Iceland, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Panama, Slovenia, Spain, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

7. As of 26 November 2007 credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, as provided for in rule 19 of the rules of procedure, have been received by facsimile or photocopy for the representatives of the following 41 Parties: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Fiji, Finland, France, Haiti, Indonesia, Jamaica, Japan, Mali, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Mongolia, Netherlands, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Zimbabwe.

8. As noted further in the memorandum, information concerning the appointment of representatives participating in the Conference has been communicated to the secretariat in the form of letters or notes verbales from ministries, embassies, permanent missions to the United Nations or other government offices or authorities, or through local United Nations offices, by the representatives of the following 56 Parties participating in the Conference: Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Comoros, Cuba, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Myanmar, Nauru, Nicaragua, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tonga, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia.

9. Consequently, the President proposed that the Bureau should accept the credentials of all the representatives mentioned in the memorandum of the Executive Secretary, on the understanding that formal credentials for the representatives referred to in paragraphs 7 and 8 above would be communicated to the secretariat as soon as possible. The Bureau accepted the proposal and agreed to submit the present report to the Conference for action.
