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## CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE SEVENTH EMERGENCY SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### Report of the Credentials Committee

Chairman: Mr. George M. J. ELLIOTT (Belgium)

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 22 July 1980, the General Assembly, in accordance with rule 28 of its rules of procedure, appointed a Credentials Committee for its seventh emergency special session with the same composition as that of the Credentials Committee at the thirty-fourth regular session, namely: Belgium, China, Congo, Ecuador, Pakistan, Panama, Senegal, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United States of America.
2. The Credentials Committee met on 25 July 1980. In opening the meeting, the representative of the Secretary-General referred to rule 63 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, according to which the President and Vice-Presidents for emergency special sessions shall be, respectively, the chairmen of those delegations from which were elected the President and the Vice-Presidents of the previous session and suggested that, in accordance with past practice, the said rule could equally be applied to the Chairman of the Credentials Committee.
3. There having been no objection to the above-mentioned suggestion, Mr. George M. J. Elliott (Belgium) took the chair.
4. The Credentials Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General on the status of credentials of representatives to the seventh emergency special session. Statements relating to the information contained in the memorandum by the Secretary-General were made by the representatives of the following members of the Committee: Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, China, United States of America and Pakistan.
5. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that his country, like many other countries, maintained the position that the only legitimate representative of Kampuchea was the People's Revolutionary Council

of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and that no one else had the right to speak on behalf of the Kampuchean people at the United Nations and other international organizations. He stated that the individuals who were strutting around the United Nations in the capacity of representatives of "Democratic Kampuchea" and who were claiming the right to participate in this session represented, as everyone knew, nobody except the clique which was overthrown by the Kampuchean people and which had sullied itself with crimes against its own people. In this connexion, the representative of the Soviet Union referred to and quoted from the message dated 22 July 1980 from Mr. Hun Sen, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, addressed to the Secretary-General (A/ES-7/7, annex). This message pointed out that the so-called "representative of Democratic Kampuchea" no longer represented anybody in Kampuchea. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics further stated that his delegation also did not recognize the credentials of the individuals delegated by the Fascist régime of Chile.

6. The representative of China stated that it was entirely unjustified for the Soviet representative to challenge the credentials of the representative of Democratic Kampuchea. He stated that the Government of Democratic Kampuchea was the sole legal government of Kampuchea and that the representative of Democratic Kampuchea was the sole legal representative of Kampuchea, which had been confirmed by previous sessions of the General Assembly. He stated that the so-called People's Republic of Kampuchea, that is, the Heng Samrin régime, was an agent of the Vietnamese military occupation authorities and could represent no one in Kampuchea. It was completely futile for the Soviet representative to try to impose such a puppet on the United Nations and thus to legalize Viet Nam's aggression. In the view of his delegation, to support the legal representation of Democratic Kampuchea in the United Nations was a matter of principle, a question of defending the sovereignty of States, upholding the Charter of the United Nations and opposing external aggression and interference. He therefore concluded that, in order to defend the basic principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Credentials Committee should maintain the correct decision taken by the Assembly at its thirty-fourth session and accept the credentials of the representatives of Democratic Kampuchea to the current emergency special session. The representative of China further stated that the Soviet instigation of Viet Nam's invasion of Kampuchea and the direct Soviet military occupation of Afghanistan were questions of the same nature. His delegation therefore deemed it necessary to state that the fact that Mr. Dost of Afghanistan had been permitted to participate in and address the seventh emergency special session should in no way be interpreted as acquiescence in the situation created by the Soviet armed intervention in Afghanistan.

7. The representative of the United States of America stated that his delegation did not accept the argument advanced by the delegation of the Soviet Union that the Credentials Committee should reject the credentials submitted by Democratic Kampuchea. He stated that in the fall of 1979 the General Assembly took a decision on Democratic Kampuchean credentials, and it made no sense to suggest that the current emergency special session was an occasion for revising the previously voted decision. The United States had declined

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to recognize the Heng Samrin régime because that régime lacked the necessary independence, having been installed and maintained by Viet Nam as the result of Viet Nam's military invasion and occupation of Kampuchea. The United States had strongly and repeatedly denounced the mass murders under the Pol Pot régime. In supporting the credentials of Democratic Kampuchea, the delegation of the United States maintained its denunciation of these acts but it also recognized that there was no genuinely independent governmental authority in Kampuchea that could advance a better claim. The representative of the United States further stated that the installation of Soviet-directed authorities in Afghanistan by the Soviet Union was intolerable. His delegation had stated this position in the Security Council and the General Assembly and wished to reiterate it in the current meeting of the Credentials Committee.

8. The representative of Pakistan stated that his Government recognized the Government of Democratic Kampuchea as the legal and sole representative of Kampuchea and that, as such, his delegation found the credentials of the representative of Democratic Kampuchea to be in good order. He further wished to reiterate that his Government's non-objection to the participation in the session of the delegation of the "Democratic Republic of Afghanistan" should not be interpreted as constituting recognition of the new régime in Afghanistan by the Government of Pakistan.

9. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that the remarks made by some members of the Committee concerning the legitimate Government of Afghanistan were completely out of place. He stated that the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan was established as a result of the people's revolution, and casting doubt on the legitimacy of this Government amounted to denying the right of the peoples to self-determination.

10. The Chairman then proposed that, taking into account the statements made in the Committee, which would be reflected in the Committee's report, the Committee should adopt the following draft resolution:

"The Credentials Committee,

"Having examined the credentials of the representatives to the seventh emergency special session of the General Assembly,

"Taking into account the different reservations expressed by delegations during the debate,

"Accepts the credentials of all representatives to the seventh emergency special session of the General Assembly."

The draft resolution was adopted without a vote.

11. The Chairman then proposed that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution (see para. 13). The proposal was approved by the Committee without a vote.

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12. In the light of the foregoing, the present report is submitted to the General Assembly.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

13. The Credentials Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Credentials of representatives to the seventh emergency  
special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.

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