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**World Conference on Disaster
Reduction**

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Agenda item 6

**Organization of work, including the
establishment of the Main Committee**

Report of the Credentials Committee

Chairman: Mr. Joseph Kwabena Odei (Ghana)

1. Rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction provides that:

“A Credentials Committee shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay.”

2. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 18 January 2005, the Conference, in accordance with rule 4 of its provisional rules of procedure, appointed a Credentials Committee that was composed of the following nine members: Austria, Benin, Bhutan, Brazil, China, Ghana, the Russian Federation, Trinidad and Tobago and the United States of America.

3. The Credentials Committee held two meetings, on 21 and 22 January 2005.

4. Mr. Joseph Kwabena Odei (Ghana) was unanimously elected Chairman.

5. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General of the Conference dated 21 January 2005 on the credentials of representatives of States and those of the European Community* to the Conference.

* The Credentials Committee worked on the basis of the provisional application of the provisional rules of procedure, as recorded by the Conference under agenda item 4.

**Reissued for technical reasons.

6. As noted in paragraph 1 of the memorandum of the Secretary-General, formal credentials of representatives to the Conference, in the form required by rule 3 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference, had been received as of the time of the meeting of the Credentials Committee by the following States: Argentina, Austria, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, El Salvador, Gabon, Germany, Guatemala, Holy See, Jamaica, Kiribati, Lithuania, Maldives, Morocco, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Spain, Swaziland, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America.

7. As noted in paragraph 2 of the memorandum, information concerning the appointment of the representatives of States to the Conference had been communicated to the Secretary-General, as of the time of the meeting of the Credentials Committee, by means of a cable or a telefax from the head of State or Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs, or by means of a letter or note verbale from the mission concerned, by the following States: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cook Islands, Cote d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Republic, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Niue, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe, and by the European Community*.

8. As noted in paragraph 3 of the memorandum, the following States participating in the Conference had not, as of the time of the meeting of the Credentials Committee, communicated to the Secretary-General any information regarding its representatives to the Conference: Seychelles.

9. The Committee decided to accept the credentials of the representatives of all States listed in the above-mentioned memorandum and those of the European Community*, on the understanding that formal credentials for representatives of the States referred to in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the present report would be communicated to the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

10. The Committee adopted the following draft resolution without a vote:

“The Credentials Committee,

* The Credentials Committee worked on the basis of the provisional application of the provisional rules of procedure, as recorded by the Conference under agenda item 4.

“Having examined the credentials of the representatives to the World Conference on Disaster Reduction referred to in the memorandum of the Secretary-General of the Conference dated 21 January 2005,

“Accepts the credentials of the representatives of the States and of the European Community referred to in the above-mentioned memorandum.”*

11. The Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the Conference the adoption of a draft resolution (see para. 13 below).

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

Recommendation of the Credentials Committee

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

“Credentials of representatives to the World Conference on Disaster Reduction

“The World Conference on Disaster Reduction,

“Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein,

“Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.”

* The Credentials Committee worked on the basis of the provisional application of the provisional rules of procedure, as recorded by the Conference under agenda item 4.