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CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION  
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Letter dated 3 November 1978 from the Permanent Representative  
of Chad to the United Nations addressed to the President of  
the General Assembly

During the consideration of the report of the Credentials Committee (A/33/350) at the 43rd plenary of the General Assembly, circumstances beyond my control prevented me from speaking on this question.

As Chairman of the African Group in the United Nations for November, I request you to have the following text circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 3 of the agenda:

"On behalf of the members of the African Group, I should like to state, as the African delegations in the Credentials Committee have done, that we have the most formal reservations concerning the credentials of the delegation of the Comoros to the thirty-third session. The international community is well aware of the decision adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-first session, held in Khartoum in July 1978, expelling the Comoros' delegation from its deliberations.

"The reason and motivation for a decision of such far-reaching political significance for the African countries was that the delegation in question had been mandated by a Government which had come to power with the aid of foreign mercenaries led by a sworn enemy of Africa: Bob Denard.

"The problem of mercenaries constitutes a real and permanent danger for African States, and the members of the OAU could in no way sanction such activities."

(Signed) Beadengar DESSAND  
Permanent Representative of  
Chad to the United Nations  
Chairman of the African Group