



THIRD EMERGENCY SPECIAL SESSION

Agenda item 3 : Appointment of a Credentials Committee*

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DOCUMENT A/3891

Report of the Credentials Committee

[Original text: English]
[20 August 1958]

1. At its 732nd plenary meeting, on 8 August 1958, the General Assembly, in accordance with rule 28 of its rules of procedure, appointed a Credentials Committee for its third emergency special session, having the same composition as the Committee appointed for the twelfth regular session. The Committee consisted of the following Member States: Burma, Canada, Iceland, Liberia, Nicaragua, Panama, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

2. The Credentials Committee met on 19 August 1958.

3. Mr. Thor Thors (Iceland) was unanimously elected Chairman of the Committee.

4. The representative of the USSR stated that the credentials of "the representatives of the Government of the Republic of China" should not be recognized as valid since China could be legally represented only by persons accredited by the Government of the People's Republic of China. He requested that his statement be recorded.

5. The representatives of the United States disagreed with the representative of the USSR and stated that the General Assembly had found that the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China had engaged in aggression and that the relevant resolution had not been repealed. He added that there was no justification for questioning the validity of the credentials of the representatives of the Government of the Republic of China.

6. The representative of the United Kingdom stated that his Government recognized the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China and that the acceptance of the credentials of the representatives of the Government of the Republic of China as a document in order did not imply recognition by the United Kingdom Government of those authorities.

7. The representatives of Burma supported the views expressed by the representative of the USSR and stated that he did not recognize as valid the credentials of the representatives of the Government of the Republic of China.

8. The representative of Liberia, in supporting the position of the representative of the United States, added that it was the view of his delegation that this question ought not to be raised collaterally, but should be taken up by the General Assembly at the appropriate time.

9. The representative of the United States introduced a motion "that the Committee take no decision regarding the credentials submitted on behalf of the representatives of Hungary". He stated that the Credentials Committee at the eleventh and twelfth sessions of the General Assembly had adopted a similar motion and that the Assembly, at its 677th plenary meeting, on 14 September 1957, had adopted a resolution which, *inter alia*, found that: "The present Hungarian régime has been imposed on the Hungarian people by the armed intervention of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics" (Resolution 1133 (XI), para. 4 (b)); he added that there had been no action since to justify any different judgement.

10. The representative of the USSR objected to the motion. He stated that there was no reason to raise the question of the validity of the credentials issued by the lawful Government of the Hungarian People's Republic, in accordance with its constitution and the relevant provisions of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. He added that the motion by the United States representative tending to cast doubts on the credentials of the Hungarian delegation was groundless and constituted an act of subversive activity against the Government with which the United States maintained diplomatic relations.

11. The representative of the United Kingdom supported the motion submitted by the representative of the United States; he stated that the Government of Australia had requested the inclusion on the agenda of the thirteenth session of the Assembly of an item entitled "The situation

* For the discussion of this item, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Third Emergency Special Session, Plenary Meetings, 732nd and 746th meetings.*

in Hungary"¹ and that, pending consideration of the matter at the thirteenth session, the decision taken by the Assembly at its twelfth session regarding Hungarian credentials should be followed.

12. The United States motion was adopted by 6 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions.

13. Subject to the decision relating to Hungary, the Credentials Committee finds the credentials of all representatives in order and recommends that the General Assembly approve its report.

14. The representative of the USSR stated that his vote in favour of the report of the Credentials Committee

¹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 69, document A/3875.

should not be interpreted as a modification of his previous position against the validity of the credentials of the representatives of the Government of the Republic of China and in favour of the validity of the credentials of the representatives of the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic.

Recommendation of the Credentials Committee

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

[Text adopted by the General Assembly without change. See "Action taken by the General Assembly" below.]

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

At its 746th plenary meeting, on 21 August 1958, the General Assembly adopted the draft resolution submitted by the Credentials Committee (A/3891, para. 15). See resolution 1238 (ES-III) below.

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

1238 (ES-III). CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE THIRD EMERGENCY SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee (A/3891).

*746th plenary meeting,
21 August 1958.*