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3F

**International Labour Conference – 109th Session, 2021**

Date: December 2021

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### Plenary sitting: Reports on credentials

**Saturday, 11 December 2021, 12.35 p.m.**

**President: Mr Zniber**

#### Submission and noting of the fourth report of the Credentials Committee

##### The President

I kindly ask that we turn our attention to the fourth report of the Credentials Committee, which was published on 8 December 2021 as *Record of Proceedings No. 3E*.

If I may, I should like to recall the names of the Officers of the Committee. They are: Mr Juan Pablo Schaeffer (Chile), Chairperson; Mr Fernando Yllanes Martínez (Mexico), Employer Vice-Chairperson; and Ms Amanda Brown (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Worker Vice-Chairperson.

I now give the floor to the Chairperson of the Credentials Committee, Mr Schaeffer, who will present the Committee's fourth report.

##### Mr Schaeffer

##### Chairperson of the Credentials Committee

(Original Spanish)

I am honoured and pleased to present to the plenary of the 109th Session of the International Labour Conference the fourth report of the Credentials Committee.

This report contains the conclusions on one objection, one complaint and two communications considered since the adoption of its third report on 16 June, as well as on the question of the representation of Myanmar.

The Committee noted that there were still 181 Member States represented at the resumed part of the session, which is the highest number ever recorded. The overall participation level has slightly increased since June to some 4,500 accredited participants after some 80 Member States modified their delegations for this part of the session. The overall proportion of women delegates and advisers also slightly increased from 38.3 per cent to 38.9 per cent.

There remained, however, five incomplete delegations, of which two were exclusively governmental, two were without a Workers' delegate and one was without an Employers' delegate. The Committee regrets this fact, in particular as the interval between the two parts of the session should have permitted Members to nominate the missing delegates and as the need to travel to Geneva was eliminated in the context of a virtual Conference.

As regards the question of the representation of Myanmar, the Committee had decided in June that it would remain seized of the matter and might reconvene, in particular in the event that the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly made a determination before the close of the current session.

In fact, the General Assembly of the United Nations met on 6 December and approved the recommendation of its Credentials Committee to defer its decision on the credentials of the representatives of Myanmar to the current session of the General Assembly. In light of this development, our Committee took the final decision that no delegates for Myanmar would be accredited at the 109th Session of the International Labour Conference.

At the same time, our report recalls the developments that have taken place in the ILO regarding Myanmar since last June, most importantly the adoption by the Conference on 19 June of the resolution for a return to democracy and respect for fundamental rights in Myanmar. It also lists six assemblies and conferences of the UN and specialized agencies that have, between June and now, taken essentially the same position as this Committee regarding the credentials of Myanmar.

Among the other matters considered by the Committee, some were linked to the particularities of this session of the Conference, namely that it was held by virtual means and that it was organized in two separate parts. For example, although it had been presumed that, due to the virtual format of the Conference, there would be no scope for complaints regarding non-payment of travel and subsistence expenses, the Committee received a complaint stating that a delegation had been asked to travel to another city in its own country to follow the Conference and alleging that the Government had not fully covered the corresponding costs. The Committee, however, did not examine this complaint as it was withdrawn by the complainants.

In conclusion, Mr President, I would observe that this resumed part of the session, which has permitted the Committee to deal with some less frequent questions, has confirmed, once again, the importance of its role as the guarantor of the genuine tripartite composition of the Conference.

Finally, let me express my sincere appreciation to my fellow members and Vice-Presidents, Mr Fernando Yllanes Martínez from Mexico for the Employers and Ms Amanda Brown from the United Kingdom for the Workers. We truly worked very well as a tripartite team on this task, and this report reflects our unanimous views.

I would also like to thank the members of the secretariat of our Committee, including the translators, who worked behind the scenes to support our work.

Mr President, Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, I thank you for your attention and now have the privilege to commend the report to you.

## The President

The Credentials Committee has unanimously adopted its fourth report and requests the Conference to take note of its content, as published in *Record of Proceedings* No. 3E.

May I take it that the Conference takes note of the report?

**(The Conference takes note of the fourth report of the Credentials Committee.)**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Officers of the Committee for their excellent work. As noted by the Chairperson of the Committee, the atmosphere in the Committee was very positive and that the work was carried out in a spirit of fruitful collaboration. Thank you again for this.

**(The Conference continues its work in plenary.)**