REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE ON THE CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES TO REVIEW THE OPERATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

1. Introduction

The Credentials Committee, consisting of Chile, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Greece, Iraq, Morocco, Nigeria, the Philippines, Slovakia, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, met under the leadership of its Chairperson, Ms Martina Filippiová, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the OPCW, on Monday, 15 May 2023 and Wednesday, 17 May 2023.

2. Examination of credentials

In accordance with Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”), the Credentials Committee examined the credentials submitted by States Parties wishing to participate in the Fifth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Fifth Review Conference”), and verified the following facts:

(a) Originals of credentials in the form required by Rule 26 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference had been received from the following 98 States Parties:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, the Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Türkiye, Ukraine, the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, and Yemen.

(b) Faxes or copies of credentials in the form required by Rule 26 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference had been received from the following 33 States Parties:

Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Kuwait, Lao People’s Democratic Republic (the), Lesotho, Libya, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Paraguay, Qatar, Singapore, South Africa, State of Palestine, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

(c) Official communications had not been received from the following registered States Parties regarding their representation: Côte d’Ivoire, Fiji, the Gambia, Kenya, Kiribati, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Papua New Guinea, Senegal, Tonga, and the United Republic of Tanzania. Further requests to submit credentials were made to those States Parties by the Technical Secretariat.

(d) Procedural concerns were raised regarding competing credentials presented by Myanmar.

3. Report and recommendations to the Conference

3.1 Based on the foregoing, the Credentials Committee decided to report to the Conference that the credentials of the States Parties referred to in subparagraphs 2(a) and 2(b) above were in the form required by Rule 26 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference.

The Credentials Committee recommended that the Fifth Review Conference:

(a) accept outright the credentials of representatives of the States Parties listed in subparagraph 2(a) above;

(b) provisionally accept the credentials of representatives of the States Parties listed in subparagraph 2(b) above, pending submission of the original versions; and

(c) defer a decision on the credentials of Myanmar, thereby leaving the seat vacant for the Conference session.

3.2 The Credentials Committee adopted its report to the Fifth Review Conference and recommended that the Fifth Review Conference approve it.