Report of the Credentials Committee

1. Pursuant to rule 13(1) of its Rules of Procedure, the General Assembly, at its first technical meeting, invited the Regional Commissions to nominate the members of the Credentials Committee. The following Full Members were appointed: Argentina, Austria, Croatia, Ecuador, Ghana, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Qatar, Sri Lanka and Togo.

2. At its meeting on 5 October, the Credentials Committee elected Croatia represented by Ms. Blanka Belosevic, to perform the functions of Chair and Ghana, represented by Ms. Sena Siaw-Boateng, to perform the functions of Vice-Chair (rule 13(2) of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly).

3. During the meeting, the Committee examined the credentials of representatives and decided to accept as valid credentials the full powers and official communications, including signed faxes and scanned copies, emanating from governments and indicating the composition of the delegations to the nineteenth session of the General Assembly.

4. The Committee thus accepted the credentials of the 113 delegations of Full Members indicated below:

   2. Algeria 20. Cambodia
   4. Argentina 22. Chile
   5. Armenia 23. China
   6. Australia 24. Colombia
   7. Austria 25. Congo
  11. Benin 29. Cuba
  12. Bhutan 30. Cyprus
  15. Brazil 33. Egypt
  16. Brunei Darussalam 34. El Salvador
  17. Bulgaria 35. Ethiopia
  18. Burkina Faso 36. France
37. Gabon 76. Oman
38. Gambia 77. Pakistan
39. Georgia 78. Paraguay
40. Germany 79. Peru
41. Ghana 80. Philippines
42. Greece 81. Poland
43. Guinea 82. Portugal
44. Haiti 83. Qatar
45. Hungary 84. Republic of Korea
46. India 85. Romania
47. Indonesia 86. Russian Federation
48. Iran, Islamic Republic of 87. n Marino
49. Iraq 88. Saudi Arabia
50. Israel 89. Senegal
51. Italy 90. Serbia
52. Jamaica 91. Seychelles
53. Japan 92. Slovakia
54. Jordan 93. Slovenia
55. Kazakhstan 94. South Africa
56. Kenya 95. Spain
57. Kuwait 96. Sri Lanka
58. Lao People’s Democratic Republic 97. Sudan
59. Lebanon 98. Swaziland
60. Lesotho 99. Switzerland
61. Liberia 100. Tajikistan
62. Madagascar 101. Thailand
63. Malaysia 102. Timor-Leste
64. Maldives 103. Togo
65. Mali 104. Tunisia
66. Malta 105. Turkey
67. Mauritania 106. Uganda
68. Mexico (Guatemala, Panama) 107. United Republic of Tanzania
69. Monaco 108. Uruguay
70. Mongolia 109. Uzbekistan
71. Morocco 110. Venezuela
72. Mozambique 111. Vietnam
73. Nepal 112. Zambia
74. Niger 113. Zimbabwe
75. Nigeria

NB. The States in brackets have authorized H.E. Mrs. Gloria R. Guevara Manzo, Minister of Tourism of Mexico to represent them during the 19th session of the General Assembly.

5. However, the Committee, after having examined the credentials of several of the Full Members, requested the Secretariat to follow up with them in order to regularize their credentials as soon as possible or at least after the General Assembly. Furthermore, the Committee strongly urged all Full and Associate Members of the Organization to comply with the UN practice and the UNWTO resolution A/RES/357(XII), at future General Assembly sessions. This resolution (documents A/12/5 and A/12/5 add.1) establishes that “only credentials from either Heads of State or Prime Ministers or Ministers of Foreign Affairs or Ministers responsible for tourism of the respective State or his/her equivalent be regarded as valid”. Pursuant to the UN practice, credentials signed by Ambassadors of Full Members accredited to Spain will also be regarded as valid. Furthermore, credentials can be accepted only if
written in any of the working languages of the General Assembly or if attached with an accurate translation. The Committee strongly recommends that the credentials indicate the full name of the signatory and bear the logo or stamp of the relevant institution.

6. Noting that the practice of the representation of one State by representatives of another State within the UNWTO differs from the UN practice, the Committee requests the Secretary-General to hold further consultations and collect the views of the Regional Commissions on this matter.

7. In any case, the Committee suggests that delegations should be recommended not to have more than one member representing another State by proxy.

8. The Committee examined, and recognized as valid, the credentials of the Flemish Community of Belgium, Hong Kong (China) and Macao (China), as Associate Members of the Organization and the credentials of the Holy See, in its capacity as Permanent Observer of the Organization and those of Palestine, in its capacity as Special Observer of the Organization.

9. The Committee took note of the registration papers of the observers of Affiliate Members and invited representatives of intergovernmental and non-governmental international organizations present as observers at the nineteenth session of the General Assembly (Gyeongju, Republic of Korea, 8-14 October 2011).