

**PLENARY MEETING**

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**Note by the Secretary-General**

**CREDENTIALS OF DELEGATIONS TO THE  
PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE**

The provisions of the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union relating to credentials are contained in Article 31, the text of which is attached.

Particular attention should be given to the following provisions:

CV 325	Signature of accreditation instruments
CV 328 to 331	Criteria for acceptance of credentials
CV 334	Deposit and verification of credentials
CV 335	Transfer of powers
CV 337	Proxy vote
CV 338	Credentials and transfer of powers sent by telegram shall not be accepted

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**Annex: 1**

## ARTICLE 31

### Credentials for Conferences

- 324** 1 The delegation sent by a Member State to a plenipotentiary conference, a  
**PP-98** radiocommunication conference or a world conference on international telecommunications shall be duly accredited in accordance with Nos. 325 to 331 below.
- 325** 2 1) Accreditation of delegations to Plenipotentiary Conferences shall be by means of instruments signed by the Head of State, by the Head of Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- 326** 2) Accreditation of delegations to the other conferences referred to in No. 324 above shall be by means of instruments signed by the Head of State, by the Head of Government, by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or by the Minister responsible for questions dealt with during the conference.
- 327** 3) Subject to confirmation prior to the signature of the Final Acts, by one of  
**PP-98** the authorities mentioned in Nos. 325 or 326 above, a delegation may be provisionally accredited by the head of the diplomatic mission of the Member State concerned to the host government. In the case of a conference held in the Swiss Confederation, a delegation may also be provisionally accredited by the head of the permanent delegation of the Member State concerned to the United Nations Office at Geneva.
- 328** 3 Credentials shall be accepted if they are signed by one of the competent authorities mentioned in Nos. 325 to 327 above, and fulfil one of the following criteria:
- 329** – they confer full powers on the delegation;
- 330** – they authorize the delegation to represent its government, without restrictions;
- 331** – they give the delegation, or certain members thereof, the right to sign the Final Acts.
- 332** 4 1) A delegation whose credentials are found to be in order by the Plenary  
**PP-98** Meeting shall be entitled to exercise the right to vote of the Member State concerned, subject to the provisions of Nos. 169 and 210 of the Constitution, and to sign the final acts.
- 333** 2) A delegation whose credentials are found not to be in order by the Plenary Meeting shall not be entitled to exercise the right to vote or to sign the Final Acts until the situation has been rectified.
- 334** 5 Credentials shall be deposited with the secretariat of the conference as early as  
**PP-98** possible; to that end, Member States should send their credentials, prior to the opening  
**PP-02** date of the conference, to the Secretary-General who shall transmit them to the secretariat of the conference as soon as the latter has been established. The committee referred to in No. 68 of the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of

the Union shall be entrusted with the verification thereof and shall report on its conclusions to the Plenary Meeting within the time specified by the latter. Pending the decision of the Plenary Meeting thereon, any delegation shall be entitled to participate in the conference and to exercise the right to vote of the Member State concerned.

- 335** 6 As a general rule, Member States should endeavour to send their own  
**PP-98** delegations to conferences of the Union. However, if a Member State is unable, for exceptional reasons, to send its own delegation, it may give the delegation of another Member State powers to vote and sign on its behalf. Such powers must be conveyed by means of an instrument signed by one of the authorities mentioned in Nos. 325 or 326 above.
- 336** 7 A delegation with the right to vote may give to another delegation with the right to vote a mandate to exercise its vote at one or more meetings at which it is unable to be present. In such a case it shall, in good time, notify the Chairman of the conference in writing.
- 337** 8 A delegation may not exercise more than one proxy vote.
- 338** 9 Credentials and transfers of powers sent by telegram shall not be accepted. Nevertheless, replies sent by telegram to requests by the Chairman or the secretariat of the conference for clarification of credentials shall be accepted.
- 339** 10 A Member State or an authorized entity or organization intending to send a  
**PP-98** delegation or representatives to a telecommunication standardization assembly, a telecommunication development conference or a radiocommunication assembly shall so inform the Director of the Bureau of the Sector concerned, indicating the names and functions of the members of the delegation or of the representatives.
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