REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE TO THE CONFERENCE

(presented by the Chairman of the Credentials Committee)

1. At its first meeting, held on 12 February 2007, the Conference established a Credentials Committee, with the delegations of Indonesia, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Qatar and the Russian Federation being invited to nominate members of this Committee.

2. On 13 February 2007, the first meeting of the Credentials Committee was held, with the Committee being composed as follows

   Mr Mohammad Syarif Alatas   (Indonesia)
   Mr Romain Huberty   (Luxembourg)
   Mr Dan Ogochukwu Obelle   (Nigeria)
   Sheikh Meshal Bin Hamad Al-Thani   (Qatar)
   Mr Sergei Nikoleivich Riabikov   (Russian Federation)

3. On a proposal moved by Qatar, the delegate of Nigeria, Mr Obelle, was elected Chairman of the Committee.

4. At the fourth meeting of the Conference, held on 13 February 2007, the Chairman of the Credentials Committee presented a preliminary report, informing the Conference that as of 12.45 p.m. on 13 February 2007, 35 States, six intergovernmental Organisations, one international non-governmental Organisation and two non-governmental Organisations had registered for the Conference. Credentials in due and proper form had been submitted by 17 States and all nine Organisations. No State had at that time submitted Full Powers.
5. The Committee recommended to the Conference that, in conformity with Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure, all delegations registered be permitted to participate in the Conference pending receipt of their credentials in due and proper form; the Conference accepted this recommendation. The Committee nevertheless urged those delegations not having submitted credentials to do so as soon as possible.

6. The Credentials Committee held its second meeting on 16 February 2007. In the absence of Mr Obelle, the meeting was chaired by Mr Bello Ringim (Nigeria). In the absence of Mr Riabikov, the meeting was attended for the Russian Federation by Ms Anastasia V. Oreshkina. At this meeting the Credentials Committee found that three further States had registered for the Conference since its previous meeting and that, in addition to the credentials that had been found to be in due and proper form on that occasion, three further States had submitted credentials in due and proper form and one State had submitted Full Powers.

7. The Credentials Committee held its third meeting on 21 February 2007. In the absence of Mr Obelle, the meeting was chaired by Mr Bello Ringim (Nigeria). In the absence of Mr Alatas, the meeting was attended for Indonesia by Mr Aris Heru Utomo. In the absence of Mr Riabikov, the meeting was attended for the Russian Federation by Mr Vladimir Vlasov. At this meeting the Credentials Committee found that, in total, 40 States, six intergovernmental Organisations, one international non-governmental Organisation and two non-governmental Organisations had registered for the Conference. The credentials of the delegations of the following 32 States were found to be in due and proper form:

- Algeria
- Australia
- Austria
- Brazil
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Chile
- Czech Republic
- Finland
- France
- Gabon
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Indonesia
- Ireland
- Japan
- Jordan
- Kenya
- Luxembourg
- Mexico
- Netherlands
- Nigeria
- Qatar
- Russian Federation
- Slovakia
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom
- United Republic of Tanzania
- United States of America
- Vietnam

8. The Committee noted that it was possible that other delegations might be submitting credentials and Full Powers by the time of the signing of the Final Act of the Conference on 23 February 2007 and, with a view to ensuring that as many States as possible could sign the Final Act, recommended that credentials and Full Powers of such other delegations still be able to be examined up to 10 a.m. on that date.

9. It was noted that the following nine international Organisations and groups were represented by observers:

- Aviation Working Group (AWG)
- Council of the European Union
- European Commission
European Investment Bank
Hague Conference on Private International Law
International Union of Railways (UIC)
Rail Working Group (RWG)
Southern African Development Community
World Bank.

10. The Credentials Committee took note that as of 21 February 2007 the delegations of five States had deposited Full Powers to sign the Protocol:

    Gabon
    Ireland
    Luxembourg
    Mexico
    Switzerland.

11. These Full Powers were found to be in due and proper form.

    - END -