



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

Organisation
des
Nations
Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

CONFERENCE

Thirty-fourth Session

Rome, 17-24 November 2007

FOURTH REPORT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

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A. VOTING RIGHTS

1. At its first meeting (17 November 2007), the Committee noted that twenty-three Member Nations had not paid sufficient amounts of their assessed contributions to retain their vote in the Conference.¹ The Committee nevertheless decided to permit these countries to vote on the first day of the session pending a case-by-case consideration. At its third meeting (20 November 2007) the Committee was informed that one Member Nation (Nicaragua) had paid a sufficient amount to be able to vote at the session. The General Committee then proceeded to a case-by-case consideration of the remaining twenty-two countries. Voting rights were restored to Burundi (on the basis of a three-year instalment plan), as well as to eleven other Member Nations (Argentina, Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Gambia, Iraq, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan and Tajikistan) in conformity with Article III.4 of the Constitution. Ten Member Nations (Antigua and Barbuda, Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Nauru, Palau, Sao Tome and Principe and Solomon Islands and Turkmenistan) have lost their voting rights because they have not requested consideration under Article III.4 of the Constitution by 20 November 2007.²

2. Since then one Member Nation that had lost its voting rights (Liberia) had submitted a request for restoration. The letter, dated 15 November 2007 (C 2007/GC/INF/13), referred to extremely difficult economic conditions beyond the control of the government as the reason for the accumulated arrears.

3. After careful consideration of this request, the Committee recommends that the voting rights of Liberia be restored pursuant to Article III.4 of the Constitution.

APPENDIX A

Summary Table of Letters from Member Nations with Potential Voting Rights Problems							
	Member Nation	Criteria of "Conditions beyond the control of a Member Nation"				Instalment Plan	
		Adverse Climatic Conditions	Natural Disasters	Wars, Conflicts or International Sanctions	Financial Crisis of Limited Foreign Exchange	Members Proposing an Instalment Plan	No Formal Request Received
1	Antigua and Barbuda						x
2	Argentina				x		
3	Burundi					3-year instalment plan	
4	Central African Republic			x	x		
5	Comoros					Bank transfer (US\$ 162,000)	x
6	Costa Rica						
7	Democratic Republic of Congo				x		
8	Dominican Republic				x		
9	Gambia				x		
10	Guinea-Bissau						x
11	Iraq			x	x		
12	Kyrgyzstan						x
13	Liberia				x		
14	Nauru						x
15	Palau						x
16	Sao Tome and Principe						x
17	Sierra Leone				x		
18	Solomon Islands						x
19	Somalia			x			
20	Sudan					Bank transfer (US\$ 5,000)	
21	Tajikistan				x		
22	Turkmenistan						x

¹ C 2007/LIM/9, *First Report of the General Committee*

² C 2007/LIM/18, *Third Report of the General Committee*