



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

Peace Palace, Carnegieplein 2, 2517 KJ The Hague, Netherlands

Tel.: +31 (0)70 302 2323 Fax: +31 (0)70 364 9928

Website: www.icj-cij.org

Press Release

Unofficial

No. 2012/15
22 March 2012

Maritime Dispute (Peru v. Chile)

The Court to hold public hearings from Monday 3 to Friday 14 December 2012

THE HAGUE, 22 March 2012. The International Court of Justice (ICJ), the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, will hold public hearings in the case concerning Maritime Dispute (Peru v. Chile) from Monday 3 to Friday 14 December 2012, at the Peace Palace in The Hague, the seat of the Court.

Schedule for the hearings

First round of oral Argument

Monday 3 December	3 p.m.-6 p.m.: Peru
Tuesday 4 December	10 a.m.-1 p.m.: Peru 3 p.m.-6 p.m.: Peru
Thursday 6 December	3 p.m.-6 p.m.: Chile
Friday 7 December	10 a.m.-1 p.m.: Chile 3 p.m.-6 p.m.: Chile

Second round of oral Argument

Tuesday 11 December	10 a.m.-1 p.m.: Peru 3 p.m.-5 p.m.: Peru
Friday 14 December	10 a.m.-1 p.m.: Chile 3 p.m.-5 p.m.: Chile

History of the proceedings

On 16 January 2008, Peru filed an Application instituting proceedings against Chile. According to the Applicant, “[t]he dispute between Peru and Chile concerns the delimitation of the boundary between the maritime zones of the two States in the Pacific Ocean, beginning at a point on the coast called Concordia according to the Treaty of 3 June 1929. The dispute between Peru and Chile also involves the recognition in favour of Peru of a large maritime zone lying within 200 nautical miles of Peru’s coast, and thus appertaining to Peru, but which Chile considers to be part of the high seas.”

As basis for the Court’s jurisdiction, Peru invokes Article XXXI of the Pact of Bogotá of 30 April 1948, to which both States are parties without reservation.

By an Order of 31 March 2008, the Court fixed 20 March 2009 and 9 March 2010 as the respective time-limits for the filing of a Memorial by Peru and a Counter-Memorial by Chile. Those pleadings were filed within the time-limits thus prescribed.

Colombia, Ecuador and Bolivia, relying on Article 53, paragraph 1, of the Rules of Court, requested copies of the pleadings and annexed documents produced in the case. In accordance with that provision, the Court, after ascertaining the views of the Parties, acceded to those requests.

By an Order of 27 April 2010, the Court authorized the submission of a Reply by Peru and a Rejoinder by Chile. It fixed 9 November 2010 and 11 July 2011 as the respective time-limits for the filing of those pleadings. The Reply and Rejoinder were filed within the time-limits thus fixed.

*

Further information regarding the accreditation/admission procedures for these hearings will be distributed in due course.

*

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. It was established by the United Nations Charter in June 1945 and began its activities in April 1946. The seat of the Court is at the Peace Palace in The Hague (Netherlands). Of the six principal organs of the United Nations, it is the only one not located in New York. The Court has a twofold role: first, to settle, in accordance with international law, legal disputes submitted to it by States (its judgments have binding force and are without appeal for the parties concerned); and, second, to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by duly authorized United Nations organs and agencies of the system. The Court is composed of 15 judges elected for a nine-year term by the General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations. It is assisted by a Registry, its international secretariat, whose activities are both judicial and diplomatic, as well as administrative. The official languages of the Court are French and English.

The ICJ, a court open only to States for contentious proceedings, and to certain organs and institutions of the United Nations system for advisory proceedings, should not be confused with the other — mostly criminal — judicial institutions based in The Hague and adjacent areas, such as the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY, an ad hoc court created by the Security Council), the International Criminal Court (ICC, the first permanent international criminal court established by treaty, which does not belong to the United Nations system), the Special

Tribunal for Lebanon (STL, an independent judicial body composed of Lebanese and international judges, which is not a United Nations tribunal and does not form part of the Lebanese judicial system), or the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA, an institution founded in 1899, which is independent of the United Nations).

Information Department:

Mr. Andrey Poskakukhin, First Secretary of the Court, Head of Department (+31 (0)70 302 2336)

Mr. Boris Heim, Information Officer (+31 (0)70 302 2337)

Ms Joanne Moore, Associate Information Officer (+31 (0)70 302 2394)

Ms Genoveva Madurga, Administrative Assistant (+31 (0)70 302 2396)