



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

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Certain Activities carried out by Nicaragua in the Border Area (Costa Rica v. Nicaragua)

Construction of a Road in Costa Rica along the San Juan River (Nicaragua v. Costa Rica)

Examination of experts during the public hearings

THE HAGUE, 10 April 2015. During the public hearings due to open on Tuesday 14 April 2015 at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, experts have been called by the Parties in the joined cases concerning Certain Activities carried out by Nicaragua in the Border Area (Costa Rica v. Nicaragua) and the Construction of a Road in Costa Rica along the San Juan River (Nicaragua v. Costa Rica).

These experts will be examined during the sessions on Tuesday 14 April, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Friday 17 April 2015 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday 20 April 2015 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Friday 24 April, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and, if necessary, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The schedule for the hearings can be found in press release No. 2015/9 of 30 March 2015.

History of the proceedings and admission procedures

The history of the proceedings may be found in the Annual Report of the Court for 2013-2014 (paras. 117-129 and 145-155), available on the Court's website (www.icj-cij.org) under the heading "The Court".

All information regarding admission procedures for members of the diplomatic corps, members of the public and media representatives can be found in press release No. 2015/7 of 16 February 2015.

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. Independent of the United Nations Secretariat, it is assisted by a Registry, its own international secretariat, whose activities are both judicial and diplomatic, as well as administrative. The official languages of the Court are French and English. Also known as the “World Court”, it is the only court of a universal character with general jurisdiction.

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 independent institution which assists in the establishment of arbitral tribunals and facilitates their work, in accordance with the Hague Convention of 1899).

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