



# INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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## Press Release

Unofficial

No. 2010/34

22 October 2010

### **Territorial and Maritime Dispute (Nicaragua v. Colombia)**

#### **Proceedings on whether to grant Honduras's application for permission to intervene**

#### **Conclusion of the public hearings; Court to begin its deliberation**

THE HAGUE, 22 October 2010. The public hearings on whether to grant Honduras's application for permission to intervene in the case concerning the Territorial and Maritime Dispute (Nicaragua v. Colombia) were concluded today. The Court will now begin its deliberation.

During the hearings, which opened on Monday 18 October 2010 at the Peace Palace, seat of the Court, the delegation of Honduras was led by H.E. Mr. Carlos López Contreras, Ambassador, National Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as Agent; the delegation of Nicaragua was led by H.E. Mr. Carlos José Argüello Gómez, Ambassador of the Republic of Nicaragua to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, as Agent and Counsel; and the delegation of Colombia was led by H.E. Mr. Julio Londoño Paredes, Professor of International Relations, Universidad del Rosario, Bogotá, as Agent.

The Court's decision on whether to grant Honduras's application to intervene will be delivered at a public sitting, the date of which will be announced in due course.

#### **Submissions of Honduras and of the Parties**

At the end of the hearings, the Agents of Honduras and of the Parties presented the following submissions to the Court:

##### **For Honduras:**

“Having regard to the Application and the oral pleadings,

May it please the Court to permit Honduras:

- (1) to intervene as a party in respect of its interests of a legal nature in the area of concern in the Caribbean Sea (paragraph 17 of the Application) which may be affected by the decision of the Court; or
- (2) in the alternative, to intervene as a non-party with respect to those interests.”

For Nicaragua:

“In accordance with Article 60 of the Rules of the Court and having regard to the Application for permission to intervene filed by the Republic of Honduras and its oral pleadings, the Republic of Nicaragua respectfully submits that:

The Application filed by the Republic of Honduras is a manifest challenge to the authority of the res judicata of your 8th of October 2007 Judgment. Moreover, Honduras has failed to comply with the requirements established by the Statute and the Rules of the Court, namely, Article 62, and paragraph 2, (a) and (b), of Article 81 respectively, and therefore Nicaragua (1) opposes the granting of such permission, and (2) requests that the Court dismiss the Application for permission to intervene filed by Honduras.”

For Colombia:

“In light of the considerations stated during these proceedings, my Government wishes to reiterate what it stated in the Written Observations it submitted to the Court, to the effect that, in Colombia’s view, Honduras has satisfied the requirements of Article 62 of the Statute and, consequently, that Colombia does not object to Honduras’s request for permission to intervene in the present case as a non-party. As concerns Honduras’s request to be permitted to intervene as a Party, Colombia likewise reiterates that it is a matter for the Court to decide in conformity with Article 62 of the Statute.”

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The verbatim records of the hearings held between 18 and 22 October 2010 are available on the Court’s website ([www.icj-cij.org](http://www.icj-cij.org)).

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