



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

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Jurisdiction and Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters **(Belgium v. Switzerland)**

Fixing of time-limits for the filing of the initial written pleadings

THE HAGUE, 17 February 2010. The International Court of Justice (ICJ), principal judicial organ of the United Nations, has fixed the time-limits for the filing of the initial written pleadings in the case concerning Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters (Belgium v. Switzerland).

By Order of 4 February 2010, the Court has fixed 23 August 2010 as the time-limit for the filing of a Memorial by the Kingdom of Belgium and 25 April 2011 as the time-limit for the filing of a Counter-Memorial by the Swiss Confederation.

The time-limits were set taking into account the wish of the Belgian and Swiss Governments to see the case dealt with as soon as possible. The Agents came to an agreement that the Parties should each have a period of eight months at their disposal, from the filing of the Application, in which to prepare their respective written pleadings.

The subsequent procedure was reserved for further decision.

History of the proceedings

For the history of the proceedings, please see Press Release 2009/36 of 22 December 2009, which is available on the Court's website (www.icj-cij.org) and can be found by clicking on "Press Room" or "Cases".

The full text of the Court's Order will soon be available on its website. Readers are reminded that written pleadings remain confidential until such time as the Court decides to make them available to the public, generally at the opening of the oral proceedings.

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