



# INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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## Press Release

Unofficial

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### **Swearing-in of two new Members of the Court at a public sitting on Monday 13 September 2010 at 10 a.m.**

THE HAGUE, 10 September 2010. The two Members of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) elected this year will be officially sworn in at a public sitting which will take place on Monday 13 September 2010 from 10 a.m., at the Peace Palace in The Hague, the seat of the Court.

Ms Xue Hanqin, of Chinese nationality, and Ms Joan E. Donoghue, of American nationality, will each make before the Court the solemn declaration provided for in Article 20 of the Statute of the Court.

Article 20 stipulates that “[e]very Member of the Court shall, before taking up his duties, make a solemn declaration in open court that he will exercise his powers impartially and conscientiously”.

It is the first time in the Court’s history that two female judges will serve simultaneously.

Elected as a Member of the Court on 29 June 2010 with immediate effect, Ms Xue Hanqin succeeded Mr. Shi Jiuyong (China), who resigned as of 28 May 2010. Pursuant to Article 15 of the Statute of the Court, Ms Xue will hold office for the remainder of Mr. Shi’s term, which will expire on 5 February 2012.

Elected on 9 September 2010 with immediate effect, Ms Joan E. Donoghue succeeds Mr. Thomas Buergenthal (United States of America), who resigned as of 6 September 2010. Pursuant to Article 15 of the Statute of the Court, Ms Donoghue will hold office for the remainder of Mr. Buergenthal’s term, which will expire on 5 February 2015.

The biographical notes of Ms Xue and Ms Donoghue are available on the Court’s website ([www.icj-cij.org](http://www.icj-cij.org)), under the heading “The Court/Members of the Court/Current Members”. Photographs of their swearing-in will be made available to the media on the same day in the “Press Room” section of the website. Lastly, the official photographs of both new judges will be available to download in due course, under the heading “The Court/Members of the Court/Current Members”.

After the sitting, the Court will retire briefly. It will return to the Great Hall of Justice shortly afterwards to begin the public hearings in the case concerning Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Georgia v. Russian Federation).

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