



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

Unofficial

No. 2013/3
27 March 2013

Request for Interpretation of the Judgment of 15 June 1962 in the Case concerning the Temple of Preah Vihear (Cambodia v. Thailand) (Cambodia v. Thailand)
Opening of the public admission and media accreditation procedures

THE HAGUE, 27 March 2013. As announced in Press Release 2012/36 issued on 29 November 2012, the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, will hold public hearings in the case concerning the Request for Interpretation of the Judgment of 15 June 1962 in the Case concerning the Temple of Preah Vihear (Cambodia v. Thailand) (Cambodia v. Thailand) from Monday 15 to Friday 19 April 2013, at the Peace Palace in The Hague, the seat of the Court.

1. Access to the courtroom

Now that the work to renovate and modernize the Great Hall of Justice of the Peace Palace, begun in spring 2012, has been completed, the Court will sit there for the first time since May 2012.

Owing to the limited number of seats available in the Great Hall of Justice, priority access is given to members of the delegations of States that are parties to cases, and members of the Diplomatic Corps. Please note that members of the general public (individual visitors and groups) will not have access to the courtroom itself, but that they will be able to follow the hearings live on a large screen in a nearby room.

Access for members of the Diplomatic Corps

Owing to the limited number of seats available in the Great Hall of Justice, members of the Diplomatic Corps wishing to attend the hearings are kindly asked to inform the Information Department **before midnight on Wednesday 10 April 2013** (The Hague time, CET), by e-mail to confirmation@icj-cij.org. Diplomatic missions are kindly requested to limit their delegations to two persons. Seats will also be reserved for diplomats in the Small Hall of Justice, where they will be able to follow the hearings on a large screen.

Access for media representatives

Media representatives are subject to an online accreditation procedure, details of which can be found in the Media Advisory attached to this Press Release. The accreditation procedure will close **at midnight on Wednesday 10 April 2013**.

Access for members of the public (individual visitors and groups)

Individual visitors and groups are subject to an online admission procedure. They are kindly requested to fill out the relevant form on the Court's website (to the right of the screen under Calendar, click on "Attending a Hearing"). The admission procedure will close **at midnight on Wednesday 10 April 2013**.

2. Schedule for and information on the hearings

The schedule for the hearings is available on the Calendar on the Court's website (www.icj-cij.org). Verbatim records of the hearings will be published daily on the Court's website (with translations to follow as soon as practicable thereafter). On the final day of the hearings, a Press Release will be issued presenting the submissions of the Parties (the Court's press releases do not constitute official documents).

3. History of the proceedings

The history of the proceedings can be found in Press Release No. 2012/36 of 29 November 2012, which is available on the Court's website.

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).

Information Department:

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Media advisory

Request for Interpretation of the Judgment of 15 June 1962 in the Case concerning the Temple of Preah Vihear (Cambodia v. Thailand)(Cambodia v. Thailand)

Accreditation procedure for the public hearings, April 2013

Media representatives are requested to fill out the online accreditation form, available on the Court's website (www.icj-cij.org) under "Calendar". **Applications for accreditation must reach the Court by midnight on Wednesday 10 April 2013.** Only online application forms will be accepted.

Entry to the Peace Palace

Media representatives must bring with them their personal ID and press card. They are asked to arrive at the Peace Palace gates between 8.30 and 9.30 a.m. for morning hearings, and between 1.30 and 2.30 p.m. for afternoon hearings. Only duly accredited individuals with valid identification will be permitted to enter the Peace Palace grounds. The Press Room will be open every day one hour and a half prior to the start of the hearings. Media representatives must leave the Peace Palace grounds each day, no later than one hour after the end of the last hearing.

Parking at the Peace Palace

No parking is allowed in the Peace Palace grounds apart from satellite vehicles. Media wishing to park satellite vehicles are requested to fill in the appropriate fields in the online accreditation form. **NB: Television media wishing to broadcast the hearings should contact the Information Department in advance.**

Access to the courtroom

Photographers and camera crews will only be permitted to enter the room for a few minutes at the start of each hearing. They will be accompanied by Registry staff members and must keep to the right side of the room. Media representatives will be able to follow the hearings from a press room (see below).

Press rooms

Proceedings will be transmitted live in English and French on a large screen in the usual Press Room. In the event of a large media presence, an additional temporary press room will be opened. These rooms will be equipped with Wi-Fi Internet access. Live video and audio feeds will also be available via the Press Room breakout box (PAL video output). It is recalled that the Press Rooms will be open, every day, one hour and a half prior to the start of the hearings, and that media representatives must leave the Peace Palace grounds each day no later than one hour after the end of the last hearing.
