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INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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communiqué

unofficial
for immediate release

Number of addresses 892

No. 70/8
28 August 1970

Legal Consequences for States of the Continued Presence
of South Africa in Namibia (South West Africa) notwithstanding
Security Council Resolution 276 (1970)

Partial Acceptance of South African Request for
Extension of Time-limit

The following information is communicated to the Press by the Registry of the International Court of Justice:

On 5 August 1970 the President of the Court had fixed 23 September 1970 as the time-limit within which the 126 Member States of the United Nations might submit written statements concerning the advisory opinion requested of the Court by the Security Council of the United Nations.

Further decisions have been taken in this respect.

In the first place, on 21 August 1970, the five States which are not members of the United Nations but are nevertheless entitled to appear before the Court were notified that the Court was prepared to receive written statements from them (see Art. 66, para. 2, of the Statute of the Court). These five States are Liechtenstein, San Marino, Switzerland, the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Viet-Nam.

Furthermore, on 28 August, the President decided to extend to 19 November 1970 the time-limit for the submission of written statements by States. This decision was taken following a request by the Government of South Africa seeking an extension of the time-limit to 31 January 1971.

The subsequent procedure is reserved for further decision.