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INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Telex 32323

Communiqué

*unofficial
for immediate release*

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*20th April 1985
Judges Lachs & Ruda
No. 85/7*

No. 85/7
22 April 1985

Frontier Dispute (Burkina Faso/Mali) :

Chamber to hold first public sitting

The five-member Chamber formed by the Court on 3 April to deal with a frontier dispute between Burkina Faso (formerly known as Upper Volta) and Mali is to hold a first public sitting at the Peace Palace at 4 p.m. on Monday 29 April 1985, to enable two judges ad hoc (see below) to make the solemn declaration required of them by the Statute and Rules of Court.

As announced in Press Communiqué No. 85/6, the Chamber is composed of Judges Lachs, Ruda and Bedjaoui, together with two judges ad hoc chosen respectively by Burkina Faso and Mali, namely Professors François Luchaire and Georges Abi-Saab. A succinct biography of each judge ad hoc is annexed hereto. Since this composition includes neither the President nor the Vice-President of the Court, the Chamber will elect its own president.

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On 12 April the President of the Court, after consulting the Parties and the Chamber, made an Order fixing 3 October 1985 as the time-limit for the filing of Memorials in the case. This time-limit corresponds to the wishes of the Parties as expressed in the Special Agreement by which proceedings were instituted. The Parties also contemplate in that Agreement at least one further round of written proceedings before the case becomes ready for hearing.

BIOGRAPHIES

FRANCOIS LUCHAIRE

Born 1 January 1919 at La Rochelle (France)

Primary and secondary education at Cherbourg

University education at the Faculty of Law of Caen

November 1939: Trainee Avocat, Cour d'Appel de Caen

December 1945: Agrégé des Facultés de Droit
Professor, Faculty of Law of Nancy

1959-1965 : Director of the Institut des Hautes Etudes d'Outre-Mer

1945 : Professor, Faculty of Law of Paris

1965-1974 : Member of the Conseil Constitutionnel de la République
Française

1971-1976 : President of the University of Paris I (Panthéon-Sorbonne)

Has taught at the Law Faculties of Paris, Tunis and Fez, the Ecole Nationale d'Administration, Algiers, the Hague Academy of International Law, etc.

GEORGES MICHEL ABI-SAAB

Born on 9 June 1933 at Heliopolis, Cairo, Egypt.

Law degree from the University of Cairo in 1954. Advanced studies in Law, Economy and Politics at the Universities of Cairo (Advanced Studies Diploma in Private Law and Public Law), Paris, Michigan (MA Econ.), Harvard (LL.M., S.J.D.), Cambridge and Geneva (Doctor of Political Science). Diploma of the Hague Academy of International Law.

From 1963 to 1969, successively, Assistant Research Fellow, Research Fellow and Lecturer at the Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva. Since 1969, Professor of International Law at that Institute.

Member of the Egyptian delegation to the Conference of Government Experts (1972) and the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of Humanitarian Law Applicable in Case of Armed Conflict (1974-1977).

Counsel and Advocate of the Tunisian Government in the case concerning the Continental Shelf (Tunisia/Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) before the International Court of Justice.

Associate of the Institute of International Law.
