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INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Communiqué

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No. 88/8
30 March 1988

Applicability of the Obligation to Arbitrate
under Section 21 of the United Nations Headquarters
Agreement of 26 June 1947

Submission of Written Statements:

Hearing on 11 April 1988

The following information is made available to the Press by the Registry of the International Court of Justice.

Four written statements have been received by the Court by 25 March 1988, the time-limit fixed by the Court in its Order of 9 March 1988 for the submission of such statements, under Article 66 of the Court's Statute, on the question submitted to it for advisory opinion by General Assembly resolution 42/229 B, namely:

"In the light of facts reflected in the reports of the Secretary-General, is the United States of America, as a party to the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, under an obligation to enter into arbitration in accordance with section 21 of the Agreement?"

As explained in Press Communiqué 88/4, the Court decided that the United States of America and the United Nations should receive a direct notification that they were considered likely to be able to furnish information on the question, and fixed 25 March 1988 as the time-limit for the receipt of their written statements and those of any other State party to the Statute wishing to participate in the proceedings.

Both the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Government of the United States of America have filed statements, as have also the Governments of the German Democratic Republic and the Syrian Arab Republic. Under the terms of the Court's Order and the Statute of the Court, oral comments on written statements may be made at a hearing by the States and Organization which have submitted written statements; the Court further decided in its Order to hold a hearing on 11 April 1988 for this purpose and that hearing will open at 10 a.m. on that day.

The written statements are not yet available to the press and public; under Article 106 of the Rules of Court, the Court or the President may decide that such statements shall be made accessible to the public on or after the opening of the oral proceedings.

NOTE FOR THE PRESS

1. The public sitting will be held in the Great Hall of Justice of the Peace Palace. Members of the Press will be entitled to attend it after presentation of a press identification card and provision of a photocopy thereof. The tables reserved for the Press are situated on the far left of the public entrance to the courtroom.

2. Photographs may be taken before the opening and during the first few minutes of the sitting. Filming for cinema or television purposes is however subject to special authorization.

3. In the Press Room, located on the ground floor of the Peace Palace (Room 5), the oral proceedings will be relayed through a loudspeaker.

4. Members of the Press may use only the public telephones in the Post Office in the basement of the Palace.

5. Mr. Noble, Deputy-Registrar of the Court (telephone extension 238), or, in his absence, Mrs. El-Erian (extension 244) will be available to deal with any requests for information by members of the Press.
