



# INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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## Press Release

Unofficial

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### **Armed Activities on the Territory of the Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Uganda)**

#### **Request for the indication of provisional measures**

#### **Court to give its decision on Saturday 1 July 2000 at 11 a.m.**

THE HAGUE, 30 June 2000. On Saturday 1 July 2000, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) will give its decision on the request for the indication of provisional measures submitted by the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in the case concerning Armed Activities on the Territory of the Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Uganda).

A public sitting will take place at 11 a.m. at the Peace Palace in The Hague during which the Court's Order will be read.

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Hearings on the request for the indication of provisional measures filed by the DRC on 19 June 2000 were held on Monday 26 and Wednesday 28 June 2000.

At the end of those hearings, the Parties presented the following submissions to the Court:

#### **For the Democratic Republic of the Congo:**

“The Democratic Republic of the Congo requests the Court to indicate as a matter of urgency the following provisional measures:

- (1) the Government of the Republic of Uganda must order its army to withdraw immediately and completely from Kisangani;
- (2) the Government of the Republic of Uganda must order its army to cease forthwith all fighting or military activity on the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to withdraw immediately and completely from that territory, and must forthwith desist from providing any direct or indirect support to any State, group, organization, movement or individual engaged or preparing to engage in military activities on the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

- (3) the Government of the Republic of Uganda must take all measures in its power to ensure that units, forces or agents which are or could be under its authority, or which enjoy or could enjoy its support, together with organizations or persons which could be under its control, authority or influence, desist forthwith from committing or inciting the commission of war crimes or any other oppressive or unlawful act against all persons on the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;
- (4) the Government of the Republic of Uganda must forthwith discontinue any act having the aim or effect of disrupting, interfering with or hampering actions intended to give the population of the occupied zones the benefit of their fundamental human rights, and in particular their rights to health and education;
- (5) the Government of the Republic of Uganda must cease forthwith all illegal exploitation of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and all illegal transfer of assets, equipment or persons to its territory;
- (6) the Government of the Republic of Uganda must henceforth respect in full the right of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity, and the fundamental rights and freedoms of all persons on the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.”

For the Republic of Uganda:

“First, that the circumstances of the case are not such as to require the exercise by the Court of its powers under Article 41 of the Statute to indicate the provisional measures.

Secondly, and in the alternative, that in any event there are substantial considerations of judicial propriety which would prevent the Court from indicating the provisional measures requested by the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Thirdly, the considerations of judicial propriety include the incompatibility of the measures requested with the Lusaka Agreement, the obligations of which are affirmed in Security Council resolution 1304, paragraphs 1 and 4.”

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**NOTE FOR THE PRESS**

1. The public sitting will be held in the Great Hall of Justice of the Peace Palace in The Hague, Netherlands. Mobile telephones and beepers are allowed in the courtroom **provided they are turned off or set on silent mode**. Any offending device will be temporarily retained.

2. Members of the Press will be entitled to attend on presentation of a press card. The tables reserved for them are situated on the far left of the public entrance of the courtroom.

3. Photographs may be taken for a few minutes at the opening and at the end of the sitting. Television crews may film, but advance notice should be given to the Information Office (see paragraph 8).

4. In the Press Room, located on the ground floor of the Peace Palace (Room 5), the reading of the Court's decision will be relayed through a loudspeaker.

5. At the end of the sitting, a press release and the full text of the Order will be distributed in the Press Room.

6. The above-mentioned documents will be simultaneously available on the Court's website (<http://www.icj-cij.org>).

7. Members of the Press who wish to make telephone calls may use the phone located in the Press Room for collect calls or the public telephones in the Post Office in the basement of the Peace Palace.

8. Mr. Arthur Witteveen, First Secretary of the Court (tel: + 31 70 302 2336), and Mrs. Laurence Blairon, Information Officer (tel: + 31 70 302 2337), are available to deal with any requests for information and for making arrangements for television coverage.

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