



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE
Peace Palace, 2517 KJ The Hague. Tel.(070-302 23 23).Cables: Intercourt, The Hague.

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Communiqué

unofficial
for immediate release

No. 95/18
27 June 1995

Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons
(Request for Advisory Opinion by the
General Assembly of the United Nations)

Hearings to open on 30 October 1995

Submission of written statements

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

The Court will hold public sittings opening at 10 a.m. on Monday 30 October 1995 for the purpose of hearing oral statements or comments in respect of the question which the General Assembly of the United Nations submitted to it for advisory opinion namely:

"Is the threat or use of nuclear weapons in any circumstance permitted under international law?"

These oral proceedings will also cover the request for advisory opinion submitted by the World Health Organization on the question of the Legality of the Use by a State of Nuclear Weapons in Armed Conflict.

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As indicated in Press Communiqué No. 95/4, the Court, by an Order of 1 February 1995, decided that States entitled to appear before the Court and the United Nations might furnish information on the question submitted to the Court and fixed:

- 20 June 1995 as the time-limit within which written statements might be submitted (Article 66, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the Court) and

- 20 September 1995 as the time-limit within which States and organizations having presented written statements might present written comments on the other written statements (Article 66, paragraph 4, of the Statute).

By 20 June 1995 written statements had been filed by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, India, Ireland, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mexico, Nauru, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Korea, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, the Solomon Islands, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

These 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.

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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. Members of the Press will be entitled to attend on presentation of an admission card, which may be obtained upon application. The tables reserved for them are situated on the far left of the public entrance of the courtroom.

2. Photographs may be taken before the opening, during the first five minutes of the sitting; and also for a few minutes towards the end. 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 Court's proceedings will be relayed through a loudspeaker.

4. Members of the Press who wish to make phone calls may use the public telephones in the Post Office in the basement of the Palace.

5. Mr. A. Th. Witteveen, Secretary in charge of information matters (tel. No. 3022336), or, in his absence, Mrs. N. C. El-Erian, Information Officer (tel. No. 3022337), will be available to deal with any requests for information by members of the Press.
