



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

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Armed Activities on the Territory of the Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Burundi) and (Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Rwanda)

The two cases are removed from the List at the request of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

THE HAGUE, 1 February 2001. The cases that the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) brought on 23 June 1999 before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) against Burundi and Rwanda in respect of disputes concerning "acts of armed aggression perpetrated by [those States] on the territory of the [DRC], in flagrant violation of the United Nations Charter and of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity" have been removed from the Court's List at the request of the DRC.

By Orders of 21 October 1999, the Court, taking into account the agreement reached between the Parties, decided that the written proceedings would first be addressed to the questions of the Court's jurisdiction and the admissibility of the Applications, and fixed time-limits for the filing of those written proceedings. Burundi and Rwanda filed their Memorials within the time-limits fixed for that purpose.

By letters dated 15 January 2001, the Government of the DRC notified the Court that it intended to discontinue the two proceedings.

Copies of those letters were immediately communicated to the Governments of Burundi and of Rwanda, which were informed that the President of the Court, acting pursuant to the Rules of Court, had fixed 23 January 2001 as the time-limit within which Burundi and Rwanda could state whether they opposed the discontinuance.

By letters dated 19 and 22 January 2001 respectively, Burundi and Rwanda informed the Court that they concurred in the discontinuance. Consequently, on 30 January 2001, the President of the Court made an Order in each case placing on record the discontinuance of the proceedings and ordering that the case be removed from the List.

The case concerning Armed Activities on the Territory of the Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Uganda), which had been brought before the Court on the same day as the two above-mentioned cases, remains on the Court's List.

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