

28 October 2010 ECRICOL No. 10 - 189

Excellency,

Territorial and Maritime Dispute (Nicaragua/Colombia)

I have the honour to refer to your communication 137671, dated 22 October 2010, transmitting the answer of the Republic of Nicaragua to the question of the honourable Judge Donoghue of 15 October 2010.

Costa Rica observes that while Nicaragua did not expressly oppose Costa Rica's request for permission to intervene in the present case in its Written Observations or in its oral submissions, it has now formally stated its opposition to Costa Rica's intervention. Nicaragua's opposition appears to be based on its self-serving but unfounded view that Costa Rica has no interest of a legal nature that may be affected by the decision in this case.

Costa Rica wishes to note that it does have an interest of a legal nature in the exercise of its sovereign rights and jurisdiction in the Caribbean Sea, which may be affected by the delimitation decision of the Court in the instant case. Costa Rica's legal interest and the potential for the Court's decision to affect that interest were demonstrated convincingly in Costa Rica's Application and subsequent oral argument. Hence, Costa Rica considers that it has fully complied with the requirements for intervention set out in the Statute and Rules of the Court.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration,

Edgar Ugalde

of Costa Rica

His Excellency Mr. Philippe Couvreur Registrar International Court of Justice Carnegieplein 2 2517 KJ The Hague