

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

Unofficial

 $N^o\,2012/25$

19 September 2012

Frontier Dispute (Burkina Faso/Niger)

<u>Live web streaming of the public hearings</u> which will be held from Monday 8 to Wednesday 17 October 2012

Schedule for the hearings

THE HAGUE, 19 September 2012. The public hearings which will be held in the case concerning the <u>Frontier Dispute (Burkina Faso/Niger)</u>, from Monday 8 to Wednesday 17 October 2012, will be streamed live and in full on the Court's website (click on "Multimedia").

Schedule for the hearings

First round of oral Argument

Monday 8 October 10 a.m.-1 p.m.: Burkina Faso

3 p.m.-6 p.m.: Burkina Faso

Tuesday 9 October 10 a.m.-11.30 a.m.: Burkina Faso

Thursday 11 October 3 p.m.-6 p.m.: Niger

Friday 12 October 10 a.m.-1 p.m.: Niger

3 p.m.-4.30 p.m.: Niger

Second round of oral Argument

Monday 15 October 10 a.m.-1 p.m.: Burkina Faso

Wednesday 17 October 3 p.m.-6 p.m.: Niger

Owing to the renovation of the Great Hall of Justice of the Peace Palace, where the Court usually sits, these public hearings will be held in the auditorium of The Hague Academy of International Law, whose building is adjacent to the Peace Palace.

History of the proceedings

The history of the proceedings can be found in Press release no 2012/14 of 22 March 2012, available on the Court's website (www.icj-cij.org).

Note to the Members of the diplomatic corps, the press and public

- 1. The public hearings will be held in the auditorium of The Hague Academy of International Law. Mobile telephones must be switched off.
- 2. Owing to the limited number of seats available in the auditorium of The Hague Academy of International Law, **Members of the Diplomatic Corps** wishing to attend the hearings are kindly asked to inform the Information Department by Thursday 4 October 2012, (please send emails to: confirmation@icj-cij.org).
- 3. Media representatives are subject to an <u>online</u> accreditation procedure, details of which can be found in the Media Advisory attached to this Press Release. The accreditation procedure will close at midnight on Thursday 4 October 2012.
- 4. Individual visitors and groups are subject to an <u>online</u> admission procedure. They are kindly requested to fill out the relevant form on the Court's website (click on "Attending a Hearing"). The admission procedure will close at midnight on Thursday 4 October 2012.
- 5. These hearing will be broadcast live and in full on the Court's website (via the "multimedia" link), at the local time (CET) indicated in the above schedule.
- 6. **Verbatim records of the hearings will be published daily** on the Court's website, with translations to follow as soon as practicable thereafter.
- 7. On the final day of the hearings, **a Press Release will be issued**, presenting the submissions of the Parties. The Court's Press Releases do not constitute official documents.

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. It was established by the United Nations Charter in June 1945 and began its activities in April 1946. The seat of the Court is at the Peace Palace in The Hague (Netherlands). Of the six principal organs of the United Nations, it is the only one not located in New York. The Court has a twofold role: first, to settle, in accordance with international law, legal disputes submitted to it by States (its judgments have binding force and are without appeal for the parties concerned); and, second, to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by duly authorized United Nations organs and agencies of the system. The Court is composed of 15 judges elected for a nine-year term by the General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations. Independent of the United Nations Secretariat, it is assisted by a Registry, its own international secretariat, whose activities are both judicial and diplomatic, as well as administrative. The official languages of the Court are French and English. Also known as the "World Court", it is the only court of a universal character with general jurisdiction.

The ICJ, a court open only to States for contentious proceedings, and to certain organs and institutions of the United Nations system for advisory proceedings, should not be confused with the other — mostly criminal — judicial institutions based in The Hague and adjacent areas, such as the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY, an <u>ad hoc</u> court created by the Security Council), the International Criminal Court (ICC, the first permanent international criminal court, established by treaty, which does not belong to the United Nations system), the Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL, an independent judicial body composed of Lebanese and international judges, which is not a United Nations tribunal and does not form part of the Lebanese judicial system), or the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA, an independent institution which assists in the establishment of arbitral tribunals and facilitates their work, in accordance with the Hague Convention of 1899).

<u>Information Department:</u>

Mr. Andrey Poskakukhin, First Secretary of the Court, Head of Department (+31 (0)70 302 2336)

Mr. Boris Heim, Information Officer (+31 (0)70 302 2337)

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Media advisory

Frontier Dispute (Burkina Faso/Niger)

Accreditation procedure for the public hearings to be held from Monday 8 to Wednesday 17 October 2012

Live web streaming

Media representatives are required to fill out the online accreditation form on the Court's website (<u>www.icj-cij.org</u>). **Applications for accreditation must reach the Court by midnight on 4 October 2012**. Only online application forms will be accepted.

Entry to the Peace Palace

Media representatives must bring with them their personal ID and press card. They are asked to arrive at the Peace Palace gates between 8.30 and 9.30 a.m. for morning hearings, and between 1.30 and 2.30 p.m. for afternoon hearings. Only duly accredited individuals with valid identification will be permitted to enter the Peace Palace grounds.

No parking is allowed in the Peace Palace grounds apart from satellite vehicles. Media wishing to park satellite vehicles are requested to fill in the appropriate fields in the online accreditation form. NB: Television media wishing to broadcast the hearings should contact the Information Department in advance, as they will take place in a temporary courtroom.

Access to the courtroom

Media representatives should take particular note of the fact that, owing to the renovation of the Great Hall of Justice of the Peace Palace, where the Court has its seat, these public hearings will be held in the auditorium of The Hague Academy of International Law, whose building is adjacent to the Peace Palace. Places reserved for media representatives are located on the far right of the auditorium. However, photographers and camera crews are only permitted to enter the room for a few minutes at the start of each hearing. Photographers and camera crews must keep to the right-hand side of the auditorium.

Press room

Proceedings will be transmitted live in English and French to the temporary Press Room, located in the entry hall of the Academy building. This is equipped with Wi-Fi internet access. Live video and audio feeds are available via the breakout box (PAL video output). The Press room will be open one hour and a half prior to the start of the hearings. Please note that media representatives must leave the Peace Palace grounds each day, no later than one hour after the end of the last hearing.

Live web streaming

The hearings will be streamed live and in full (in Flash Format) on the Court's website (via the "Multimedia"link) (at the local time (CET) indicated in the schedule in Press Release 2012/25). They will also be made available as recorded webcasts (VOD, in Flash format) on the Court's website and, shortly after the hearings, will be uploaded to the United Nations multimedia site: http://webtv.un.org/meetings-events/.

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