



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

Unofficial

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Obligations of States in respect of Climate Change

(Request for Advisory Opinion)

Extension of the time-limits for the submission of written statements and written comments

THE HAGUE, 19 December 2023. By an [Order dated 15 December 2023](#) in the advisory proceedings on the *Obligations of States in respect of Climate Change*, the President of the International Court of Justice extended to 22 March 2024 the time-limit within which written statements on the questions put to the Court may be submitted in accordance with Article 66, paragraph 2, of its Statute, and to 24 June 2024 the time-limit within which States and organizations having presented written statements to the Court may submit written comments on the other written statements, in accordance with Article 66, paragraph 4, of the Statute.

The extension was granted further to requests submitted by the Melanesian Spearhead Group, the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States, the Pacific Community, the Republic of Kiribati, the African Union and the Republic of Nauru.

The subsequent procedure has been reserved for further decision.

Procedure of the Court and history of the proceedings

The Registry recently published an [explanatory note](#) on the Court's website concerning the procedure followed by the ICJ with regard to requests for advisory opinions.

Earlier [press releases](#) relating to this case are also available on the website.

Note: The Court's press releases are prepared by its Registry for information purposes only and 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 Court is composed of 15 judges elected for a nine-year term by the General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations. The seat of the Court is at the Peace Palace in The Hague (Netherlands). The Court has a twofold role: first, to settle, in accordance with international law, legal disputes submitted to it by States; and, second, to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by duly authorized United Nations organs and agencies of the system.

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