



# INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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## Press Release

Unofficial

No. 2024/25

26 March 2024

### *Obligations of States in respect of Climate Change*

#### (Request for Advisory Opinion)

#### The Court authorizes the World Health Organization to participate in the proceedings

THE HAGUE, 26 March 2024. The International Court of Justice has authorized the World Health Organization (WHO), at its request, to participate in the advisory proceedings on the *Obligations of States in respect of Climate Change*.

Pursuant to Article 66 of its Statute, the Court has decided that the WHO is likely to be able to furnish information on the questions submitted to the Court by the General Assembly. The WHO was therefore authorized to submit a written statement on those questions by 22 March 2024, and written comments on any written statements made by States or other organizations by 24 June 2024, at the latest, in accordance with the time-limits as extended by President Donoghue in her [Order](#) of 15 December 2023. The subsequent procedure has been reserved for further decision.

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#### History of the proceedings

Earlier [press releases](#) relating to these proceedings are available on the Court's website.

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*Note:* The Court's press releases are prepared by its Registry for information purposes only and do not constitute official documents.

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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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