



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

Peace Palace, 2517 KJ The Hague. Tel. 92 44 41. Cables: Intercourt, The Hague

Telex 32323

Communiqué

*unofficial
for immediate release*

No. 80/11
16 October 1980

Interpretation of the Agreement of 25 March 1951
between the WHO and Egypt

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Hearing to open at 10 a.m. on
Tuesday 21 October 1980

The following information is made available to the Press by the Registry of the International Court of Justice:

The Court is to hold public sittings as from 10 a.m. on Tuesday 21 October 1980 for the purpose of hearing the oral statements of governments in respect of the questions submitted to the Court for its advisory opinion by the Assembly of the World Health Organization.

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These questions relate to the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean and are as follows:

"1. Are the negotiation and notice provisions of section 37 of the Agreement of 25 March 1951 between the World Health Organization and Egypt applicable in the event that either party to the agreement wishes to have the regional office transferred from the territory of Egypt?

2. If so, what would be the legal responsibilities of both the World Health Organization and Egypt, with regard to the regional office in Alexandria, during the two-year period between notice and termination of the Agreement?"

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This...

This is the text of the section 37 mentioned above:

"The present Agreement may be revised at the request of either party. In this event the two parties shall consult each other concerning the modifications to be made in its provisions. If the negotiations do not result in an understanding within one year, the present Agreement may be denounced by either party giving two years' notice."

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In accordance with the procedure laid down by the Court's Statute, the World Health Organization and its member States were informed that the Court was prepared to receive statements from them.

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The following States presented written statements:
Bolivia, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Syrian Arab Republic,
United Arab Emirates, United States.

Egypt, Syria, the United Arab Emirates and the United States have announced their intention of submitting oral statements also.

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Following the recent death of first Judge Baxter and then Judge Tarazi, the Court is composed as follows:

President Sir Humphrey Waldock; Vice-President Taslim Olawale Elias;
Judges Isaac Forster, André Gros, Manfred Lachs, Platon D. Morozov,
Nagendra Singh, José María Ruda, Hermann Mosler, Shigeru Oda,
Roberto Ago, Abdullah El-Erian and José Sette-Camara.

NOTE FOR THE PRESS

1. The public sittings will be held in the Great Hall of Justice of the Peace Palace. Members of the Press will be entitled to attend them on presentation of an admission card, which may be obtained upon application. The tables reserved for them are situated on the far left of the public entrance to the courtroom.

2. Photographs may be taken before the opening, during the first five minutes of the sitting; and also for a few minutes towards the end. Filming for cinema or television purposes is however subject to special authorization.

3. In the Press Room, located on the ground floor of the Peace Palace (Room 5), the oral proceedings will be relayed through a loudspeaker.

4. Members of the Press may use only the four public telephones in the Post Office in the basement of the Palace.

5. Mr. C. Poux, First Secretary of the Court (telephone extension 233), or, in his absence, Mr. Noble (extension 248) will be available to deal with any requests for information by members of the Press.

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