



# INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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**Communiqué**

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Continental Shelf (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya/Malta)

Application by the Government of Italy for permission  
to intervene

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

On 24 October 1983 the Government of Italy filed an Application for permission to intervene in the case concerning the dispute between the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Malta as to the delimitation of the continental shelf between the two States. It is based on Article 62, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Statute of the Court, which read as follows:

"1. Should a State consider that it has an interest of a legal nature which may be affected by the decision of the case, it may submit a request to the Court to be permitted to intervene.

2. It shall be for the Court to decide upon this request."

The Government of Italy indicates in its Application that the object of its intervention in the case concerning delimitation of the continental shelf between the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Malta is to enable it to participate in the proceedings to the full extent necessary to defend its rights over certain areas claimed by the Parties, so that the Court may be able to take those rights into account in its decision.

Under Article 83 of the Rules of Court, the Application for permission to intervene was immediately communicated to the Parties, and a time-limit (5 December 1983) fixed by the President for them to present written observations thereon.

It will be for the Court to decide as a matter of priority whether the application to intervene is admitted. Should an objection be raised, it will hear the Parties and Italy before deciding.