



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Communiqué

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Passage through the Great Belt (Finland v. Denmark)

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

Hearings on the request for provisional measures, filed by Finland on 23 May 1991, in the case concerning Passage through the Great Belt (Finland v. Denmark), will open on Monday 1 July 1991 at 10 a.m., in the Great Hall of Justice of the Peace Palace, The Hague.

As reported in Press Communiqué 91/14 of 17 May 1991, the Republic of Finland, on 17 May 1991, filed in the Registry of the Court an Application instituting proceedings against the Kingdom of Denmark in respect of a dispute concerning the question of passage through the Great Belt (Store Bælt - one of the three straits linking the Baltic to the Kattegat and thence to the North Sea).

In its request for provisional measures, filed on 23 May 1991 (see Press Communiqué No. 91/15 of 24 May 1991), Finland requested the Court to indicate the following measures:

"(1) Denmark should, pending the decision by the Court on the merits of the present case, refrain from continuing or otherwise proceeding with such construction works in connection with the planned bridge project over the East Channel of the Great Belt as would impede the passage of ships, including drill ships and oil rigs, to and from Finnish ports and shipyards;"

and

"(2) Denmark should refrain from any other action that might prejudice the outcome of the present proceedings."

NOTE FOR THE PRESS

1. The public sitting will be held in the Great Hall of Justice of the Peace Palace. Members of the Press will be entitled to attend 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 of the courtroom.

2. Photographs may be taken before the opening, during the first five minutes of the sittings; 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 public telephones in the Post Office in the basement of the Palace.

5. Mr. Witteveen, Secretary of the Court (telephone extension 233) or, in his absence, Mrs. El-Erian (telephone extension 234), will be available to deal with any requests for information by members of the Press.
