



INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA
TRIBUNAL INTERNATIONAL DU DROIT DE LA MER

Press Release

PRESIDENT HEIDAR GIVES THE TRIBUNAL'S ANNUAL ADDRESS TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Judge Tomas Heidar, President of the Tribunal, addressed the 80th session of the United General Assembly yesterday, during its discussion of agenda item 75, 'Oceans and the Law of the Sea'.

In his address, President Heidar provided delegates with a review of the ongoing judicial work of the Tribunal and the two contentious cases currently pending before it, *The M/T "Heroic Idun" (No. 2) Case (Marshall Islands/Equatorial Guinea)* and *The "Zheng He" Case (Luxembourg v. Mexico)*. President Heidar also referred to the advisory jurisdiction of the Tribunal and the continuing acknowledgment of its Advisory Opinion on climate change and the ocean, noting that this underscored "the value of the Tribunal's contribution to clarifying States' obligations in the context of one of the most pressing global challenges of our time". President Heidar closed his statement with a summary of the ongoing capacity-building activities at the Tribunal, its internship and fellowship programmes, the IFLOS Summer Academy and both the regional and the Legal Advisers' workshop series.

On 8 December 2025, President Heidar and Registrar Hinrichs Oyarce met with the Legal Counsel of the United Nations, Ms Elinor Hammarskjöld. During the meeting, the President extended an invitation to Ms Hammarskjöld to visit the Tribunal in the coming year for the celebrations which will be held to mark the Tribunal's thirtieth anniversary.

The statement of the President is available on the website of the Tribunal.

Note: The press releases of the Tribunal do not constitute official documents and are issued for information purposes only.

The press releases of the Tribunal, documents and other information are available on the Tribunal's website (<http://www.itlos.org> and <http://www.tidm.org>) and from the Registry of the Tribunal. Please contact Ms Julia Ritter or Mr Robert Steenkamp at: Am Internationalen Seegerichtshof 1, 22609 Hamburg, Germany, Tel.: +49 (40) 35607-227; Fax: +49 (40) 35607-245; E-mail: press@itlos.org