



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

# Press Release

**THE "HOSHINMARU" CASE (JAPAN V. RUSSIAN FEDERATION)  
RELEASE OF THE VESSEL AND CREW AFTER POSTING OF THE BOND  
ORDERED BY THE TRIBUNAL**

Hamburg, 17 August 2007. The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea welcomes the announcement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, that the fishing vessel *Hoshinmaru* and its crew have been released by the Russian Federation upon the posting of the bond of 10 million roubles set by the Tribunal in its Judgment of 6 August 2007.

According to a press release of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated 16 August 2007, the bond for the release of the vessel was paid by the shipowner on 15 August 2007. The bond was received by the Russian Federation on 16 August 2007 and the vessel and crew were released on the same day. The vessel is now on its way to Japan, where it is due to arrive on 19 August 2007.

The Application for the release of the *Hoshinmaru* was submitted to the Tribunal under article 292 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on 6 July 2007 by Japan, the flag State of the vessel, against the Russian Federation. The *Hoshinmaru* was detained by the authorities of the Russian Federation for the alleged infringement of national fisheries legislation in its exclusive economic zone. After oral proceedings held on 19, 20 and 23 July 2007 and deliberations, the Tribunal delivered its Judgment on 6 August 2007, deciding that the Russian Federation shall promptly release the *Hoshinmaru*, including its catch on board, upon the posting of a bond in the amount of 10,000,000 roubles, and that the Master and the crew shall be free to leave without any conditions.

With the payment of the bond and the release of the *Hoshinmaru* and its crew only ten days after the delivery of the Tribunal's judgment, the Tribunal notes the prompt compliance of the parties with its decision.

The press releases of the Tribunal, documents and other information are available on the Tribunal's websites: <http://www.itlos.org> and <http://www.tidm.org> and from the Registry of the Tribunal. Please contact Ms Julia Ritter: Am Internationalen Seegerichtshof 1, 22609 Hamburg, (Germany). Telephone: +49 (040) 35607-227, fax: +49 (040) 35607-245/275, e-mail: [press@itlos.org](mailto:press@itlos.org)

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