

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

Press Release

BUENOS AIRES REGIONAL WORKSHOP CONCLUDES WITH COOPERATION AGREEMENT

From 26 to 28 May 2008, in Buenos Aires, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea held a regional workshop on the role of the Tribunal in the settlement of law of the sea-related disputes. The workshop was organized in cooperation with the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship and was attended by representatives of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

The workshop presented an occasion for representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of the Tribunal to exchange views on ways of enhancing the Tribunal's role in the settlement of disputes.

During these exchanges, it was agreed that, whenever proceedings before a special chamber of the Tribunal involved States from the region, the parties to the proceedings and the special chamber might find it appropriate to hold meetings at a suitable city in the region. In that respect, Argentina expressed its willingness to provide the necessary facilities in the event the Tribunal and the parties consider it desirable for a special chamber of the Tribunal to sit, or otherwise exercise its functions, in Buenos Aires.

It was agreed that any assistance given to the Tribunal by the Argentine Government in such a case would be subject to an arrangement containing, *inter alia,* provisions consistent with the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, adopted on 23 May 1997.

The press releases of the Tribunal, documents and other information are available on the Tribunal's websites: www.itlos.org and 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