State Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Minoru Kiuchi paid a courtesy call on the President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, Judge Vladimir Golitsyn, on 7 November 2014 as part of his official visit to the Federal Republic of Germany.

He was accompanied by a delegation of officials from the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including Mr Shingo Yamagami, Ambassador/Deputy Director-General, Foreign Policy Bureau, Mr Katsuro Kitagawa, Director, National Security Policy Division, Foreign Policy Bureau, and Mr Hideaki Konagaya, Executive Assistant to the State Minister for Foreign Affairs, as well as by Mr Takayuki Miyashita, Minister, Embassy of Japan in Germany, and Mr Yasushi Fukagawa, Consul, Consular Office of Japan in Hamburg.

The President was accompanied by the Registrar, Mr Philippe Gautier.

During their meeting, the President briefed Mr Kiuchi on the activities of the Tribunal and highlighted its role in the peaceful resolution of maritime disputes. He expressed his gratitude to Japan for its ongoing support of the Tribunal. Mr Kiuchi congratulated President Golitsyn on his election as President of the Tribunal. He declared that the Government of Japan attached great importance to the rule of law at sea and stated that Japan would continue to provide support to the Tribunal. He also expressed confidence
that the Tribunal would continue to develop its activities under President Golitsyn's leadership. Mr Kiuchi signed the visitors’ book and was then accompanied by the President on a tour of the building.

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 websites (http://www.itlos.org and http://www.tidm.org) and from the Registry of the Tribunal. Please contact Ms Julia Ritter at: Am Internationalen Seegerichtshof 1, 22609 Hamburg, Germany, Tel.: +49 (40) 35607-227; Fax: +49 (40) 35607-245; E-mail: press@itlos.org