



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

Press Release

**CÔTE D'IVOIRE SEEKS PROVISIONAL MEASURES IN THE DISPUTE
CONCERNING DELIMITATION OF THE MARITIME BOUNDARY BETWEEN
GHANA AND CÔTE D'IVOIRE IN THE ATLANTIC OCEAN
(GHANA/CÔTE D'IVOIRE)**

On 27 February 2015 the Special Chamber of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea formed to deal with the dispute concerning delimitation of the maritime boundary between Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire in the Atlantic Ocean received a request for the prescription of provisional measures. The request was submitted by Côte d'Ivoire under article 290, paragraph 1, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

In its request Côte d'Ivoire asks the Special Chamber to prescribe as provisional measures that Ghana shall:

- take all steps to suspend all oil exploration and exploitation operations under way in the disputed area;
- refrain from granting any new permit for oil exploration and exploitation in the disputed area;
- take all steps necessary to prevent information resulting from past, present or future exploration operations in the disputed area conducted by Ghana, or with its authorization, from being used in any way whatsoever to the detriment of Côte d'Ivoire;
- and, generally, take all necessary steps to preserve the continental shelf, the waters superjacent to it, and its subsoil; and
- suspend, and refrain from, any unilateral activity entailing a risk of prejudice to the rights of Côte d'Ivoire and from any unilateral action which could lead to aggravating the dispute.

Under article 90, paragraph 2, of the Rules of the Tribunal, the President of the Special Chamber "shall fix the earliest possible date for a hearing".

The dispute was submitted, by way of special agreement between the two States concerned, to a special chamber of the Tribunal formed in application of article 15, paragraph 2, of the Statute by Order of the Tribunal dated 12 January 2015. The case has been entered as No. 23 in the List of cases of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea.

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