



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

Press Release

ITLOS WORKSHOP FOR LEGAL ADVISERS (SPONSORED BY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA)

The fourth ITLOS Workshop for Legal Advisers (sponsored by the Republic of Korea) was opened on 7 September 2025 by the President of the Tribunal, Judge Tomas Heidar, who welcomed participants from Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia and Uganda.



This workshop, which has been designed for legal advisers of African States, is the fourth in the ITLOS legal advisers workshop series. It belongs to the Tribunal's array of capacity-building programmes aimed at promoting and disseminating knowledge about the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and in particular the dispute settlement procedures enshrined in its Part XV.

In his opening statement, President Heidar emphasized the objective of the workshop series: to enhance the dispute settlement capabilities – in particular of developing countries – by providing high-level government officials in charge of international law of the sea with first-hand insights into the law, procedure and practice of the Tribunal as well as substantive matters concerning the law of the sea. He expressed his gratitude for the ongoing support of the Republic of Korea in sponsoring the workshop series.

Mr Hwang Jun-shik, Director-General for International Legal Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, confirmed the support of the Republic of Korea for the judicial work and the capacity-building programmes of the Tribunal, remarking that the workshop should “serve as an invaluable opportunity to deepen our mutual understanding and to explore practical solutions to the maritime challenges in this time of unprecedented uncertainty and instability”.

The fourth workshop runs from 7 to 12 September 2025. The programme includes presentations on the dispute settlement mechanism under Part XV of the Convention and the jurisdiction of the Tribunal; maritime delimitation and the Tribunal’s jurisprudence in this regard; the role of the Seabed Disputes Chamber in relation to activities in the Area; the contribution of the Tribunal to the development of the law of the sea; the various proceedings relating to advisory opinions; requests for the prescription of provisional measures; applications for the prompt release of vessels and crews; and the manner in which proceedings are instituted and conducted before the Tribunal. Further sessions focus on litigation before the Tribunal; the protection of the marine environment; the African Union and the law of the sea; the delimitation of maritime boundaries; international fisheries law; sea level rise and the law of the sea; contemporary developments in the Area and the work of the International Seabed Authority; the BBNJ Agreement; and the work of the International Maritime Organization. Presentations will be given by President Heidar, Vice-President Chadha, Judges Jesus, Bouguetaia, Kamga, Joyini, Rhee and Kamara, and Registrar Hinrichs Oyarce. A faculty of external lecturers – former ITLOS Judge Paik, Professors Miron, Mbengue, Harrison and Oral, joined by Ambassador Negm, Mr Fietta, Dr Salpin, and Directors Durney and Lost-Siemńska – will also speak during the course of the workshop.

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