



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

# Press Release

**THE “ZHENG HE” CASE (LUXEMBOURG V. MEXICO)**

**CASE REMOVED FROM TRIBUNAL’S LIST**

On 16 March 2026, by Order of the President of the Tribunal, Judge Tomas Heidar, *The “Zheng He” Case (Luxembourg v. Mexico)* was removed from the Tribunal’s List of cases.

The proceedings in *The “Zheng He” Case (Luxembourg v. Mexico)* were instituted on 4 June 2024 by an application filed by Luxembourg against Mexico in a dispute regarding the vessel “Zheng He”.

By joint letter dated 13 March 2026 and received by the Registry on 16 March 2026, the Parties stated that, on 28 October 2025, “they formalized a Letter of Understanding through exchange of notes in order to achieve a mutually satisfactory solution regarding the situation of the vessel *Zheng He*.” In their joint letter, the Parties further stated that “the vessel *Zheng He* has received all clearances and approvals from the competent Mexican authorities to leave Mexican territory and was able to proceed to the high seas in accordance with the terms of the Letter of Understanding”. In the same joint letter, the Parties thus “notif[ied] the Tribunal of their agreement to discontinue the proceedings” and requested that “the Tribunal issue an order recording such discontinuance and directing the Registrar to remove the case from the List of Cases.”

In accordance with article 105 of the Rules of the Tribunal, the President, by the Order of 16 March 2026, places on record the discontinuance, by agreement of the Parties, of the proceedings initiated on 4 June 2024 by Luxembourg against Mexico and orders that the case be removed from the Tribunal’s List of cases. The Order is available on the [website](#) of the Tribunal.

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](mailto:press@itlos.org)