Press Release

It is with deep regret that the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea announces the death of Judge Alexander Yankov last week. Judge Yankov was a Member of the Tribunal from 1996 until 2011.

Judge Yankov dedicated his life to the development of the law of the sea and the peaceful settlement of disputes, acting as Vice-Chairman of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction, as Chairman of the Third Committee of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and as Vice-Chairman of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO. He was a member of the Institut de droit international and of the International Law Commission.

He also devoted his attention to capacity building and was Professor of International Law of Sofia University, visiting professor at numerous universities and lecturer at The Hague Academy of International Law. He published extensively on various topics of international law, law of the sea, international organizations, international adjudication and international environmental law.

At the Tribunal, Judge Yankov served as President of the Chamber for Marine Environment Disputes and as Member of the Special Chamber formed to deal with the Case concerning the Conservation and Sustainable Exploitation of Swordfish Stocks in the South-Eastern Pacific Ocean (Chile/European Union).

The Members of the Tribunal pay tribute to Judge Yankov's contribution to the international law of the sea and will honour his memory.

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