



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

# Press Release

## 14<sup>TH</sup> ITLOS REGIONAL WORKSHOP OPENS IN MONTEVIDEO

The fourteenth regional workshop of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea was opened today in Montevideo by Judge Jin-Hyun Paik, President of the Tribunal, and Dr Carlos Mata Prates, Director of International Law of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay.

The workshop, entitled “The role of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in the settlement of disputes relating to the law of the sea”, is being organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay and with the support of the Korea Maritime Institute. The two-day workshop, which is specifically designed for representatives of States from the Latin American region, welcomes participants from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.



Photo: Parlamento del MERCOSUR

In his opening statement, President Paik recalled the strong influence of Latin American States in the development of the law of the sea, both prior to and during the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and since the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (“the Convention”). President Paik called on Latin American States, including those which are parties to the “Pact of Bogotá”, to consider utilizing the Tribunal, which, as the only permanent judicial institution to have been created by the Convention, acts as the principal judicial guardian of the legal order of the oceans and is best placed to ensure a cohesive interpretation and application of the Convention. The President thanked the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Korea Maritime Institute for their support in organizing the workshop.

In his welcoming remarks, Dr Mata Prates thanked the Tribunal on behalf of the government of Uruguay for organizing the workshop in Montevideo. He highlighted the contribution made by Uruguay to the development of the law of the sea and emphasized the Tribunal's role in implementing the Convention and the relevance of the issues dealt with by the Tribunal.

The workshop programme includes an overview of proceedings before the Tribunal and sessions dedicated to the delineation and delimitation of the continental shelf as well as to fishery cases before the Tribunal. Presentations will be given by President Paik, Judges Kelly, Heidar and Cabello, and Registrar Hinrichs Oyarce.

The Tribunal's regional workshop series aims to familiarize participants with the dispute-settlement mechanism established by the Convention and with the procedure applicable to cases before the Tribunal. To date, regional workshops have been held in Dakar, Kingston, Libreville, Singapore, Bahrain, Buenos Aires, Cape Town, Fiji, Mexico City, Nairobi, Bali, San José and Mindelo.

Note: The press releases of the Tribunal do not constitute official documents and are issued for information purposes only.

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