



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

Press Release

ELECTION OF JUDGE RÜDIGER WOLFRUM AS PRESIDENT AND JUDGE JOSEPH AKL AS VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE TRIBUNAL

Judge Rüdiger Wolfrum (Germany) was today elected as President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for the period 2005–2008 by the 21 members of the Tribunal. President Wolfrum has been a member of the Tribunal since 1996. In accordance with the Rules of the Tribunal, the President is elected for a period of three years and may be re-elected. He presides at all meetings of the Tribunal, directs its work and supervises its administration. He represents the Tribunal in its relations with States and other entities and is the only judge required to reside permanently at the seat of the Tribunal in Hamburg.



The outgoing President, Judge Dolliver Nelson conducted the election for the presidency. He expressed his gratitude to his colleagues for their invaluable support during his three-year term of office and gave his best wishes to the new President.

(more)

For information media - not an official record
also available at <http://www.itlos.org> and <http://www.tidm.org>

President Wolfrum conducted the election for the Vice-President shortly thereafter. Judge Joseph Akl (Lebanon), also a member of the Tribunal since 1996, was elected for a period of three years. Vice-President Akl replaces Judge Budislav Vukas who served as Vice-President from 2002–2005. The Vice-President assumes the functions of the President should the President be unable to exercise the functions of the presidency or in the event of a vacancy in the presidency.

The curriculum vitae of the newly-elected President and Vice-President may be found on the Tribunal's website at:

http://www.itlos.org/general_information/judges/text_en.shtml.

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 Mrs Julia Ritter at Am Internationalen Seegerichtshof 1, 22609 Hamburg, Germany, Tel.: +49 (40) 35607-227, Fax: +49 (40) 35607-245;
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