



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

Press Release

(Issued by the Registrar)

The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea deeply regrets to announce the death, in Beijing, on 10 October 2000, of Mr. Lihai Zhao. Mr. Zhao had been a Member of the Tribunal since October 1996. His term of office was due to expire in September 2002.

A register of condolences will be open for signature at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, Wexstrasse 4, Hamburg, on Wednesday, 18 October 2000 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The flag of the Tribunal is being flown half-mast.

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Mr. Zhao, of Chinese nationality, was born in Shan Xi in 1916. He had a long and distinguished career in the service of his country and was well-known for his contributions in the field of international law, especially international law of the sea.

Mr. Zhao graduated from the University of Yenching. He received his Masters degree from the University of Chicago and his Ph.D. from the University of Harvard. From 1945 to 1957, he was Professor of Law successively at the National Wuhan University, the National Central University of Nanjing, and Nanjing University. From 1957, he served as Professor of International Law at Peking University. In 1983, he was a visiting professor at the New York University School of Law.

He served as Vice-President of the Chinese Association of International Marine Affairs from 1981 to 1989, Vice-President of the Chinese Society of the Law of the Sea from 1989 and its President from 2000. He was Senior Legal Adviser for the China Ocean Mineral Research and Development Association from 1991 to 1996.

He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Chinese Society of Oceanography from 1989 to 1994. He was also a member of the China Law Society from 1982 to 1986. He sat on the Board of Directors of both the Chinese Society of Politics and Law from 1956 to 1966 and the Chinese Society of International Law from 1980 to 1994, acting as an adviser to the latter from 1994. He was a member

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of the Curatorium Internationale of the Institute of International Public Law and International Relations in Greece from 1983.

From 1988 to 1993, Mr. Zhao served as a member of the 7th National Committee and of the Legal System Committee at the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. He became the Deputy Director of the Legal System Committee for the China Democratic League from 1989 and a member of the China Council for the Promotion of Peaceful National Reunification from 1988 to 1996.

He was also the author of several books on international law.

The Press Releases of the Tribunal, documents and other information are available on the United Nations website: <http://www.un.org/Depts/los/> and from the Registry of the Tribunal.

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