

Meeting of States Parties

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Annual report of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for 2024

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I. Introduction

1. The present report of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea is submitted to the Meeting of States Parties under rule 6, paragraph 3 (d), of the Rules of Procedure for Meetings of States Parties and covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2024.

2. The Tribunal was established under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982. It functions in accordance with the relevant provisions of parts XI and XV of the Convention, the Statute of the Tribunal, as contained in annex VI to the Convention, and the Rules of the Tribunal.

II. Organization of the Tribunal

3. The Tribunal is composed of 21 members, elected by the States Parties to the Convention in the manner provided for in article 4 of the Statute.

4. Since 1 October 2023, the composition of the Tribunal has been as follows:

Order of precedence	Country	Date of expiry of term of office
President		
Tomas Heidar	Iceland	30 September 2032
Vice-President		
Neeru Chadha	India	30 September 2026
Judges		
José Luis Jesus	Cabo Verde	30 September 2026
Boualem Bouguetaia	Algeria	30 September 2026
David Joseph Attard	Malta	30 September 2029
Markiyan Z. Kulyk	Ukraine	30 September 2029
Óscar Cabello Sarubbi	Paraguay	30 September 2026
Kriangsak Kittichaisaree	Thailand	30 September 2026
Roman A. Kolodkin	Russian Federation	30 September 2026
Liesbeth Lijnzaad	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	30 September 2026
María Teresa Infante Caffi	Chile	30 September 2029
Jielong Duan	China	30 September 2029
Kathy-Ann Brown	Jamaica	30 September 2029
Ida Caracciolo	Italy	30 September 2029
Maurice K. Kamga	Cameroon	30 September 2029
Frida María Armas Pfirter	Argentina	30 September 2032
Hidehisa Horinouchi	Japan	30 September 2032

Order of precedence	Country	Date of expiry of term of office
Thembile Elphus Joyini	South Africa	30 September 2032
Zha Hyoung Rhee	Republic of Korea	30 September 2032
Osman Keh Kamara	Sierra Leone	30 September 2032
Konrad Jan Marciniak	Poland	30 September 2032

5. The Registrar of the Tribunal is Ximena Hinrichs Oyarce (Chile). The Deputy Registrar is Antoine Ollivier (France).

III. Election of the Registrar

6. In accordance with article 32 of the Rules, the Registrar is elected from among the candidates nominated by the members of the Tribunal.

7. On 18 September 2024, the members re-elected Ximena Hinrichs Oyarce (Chile), who has been Registrar of the Tribunal since 2019, for a term of five years. Ms. Hinrichs Oyarce was Deputy Registrar of the Tribunal from 2017 to 2019.

IV. Chambers

A. Seabed Disputes Chamber

8. In accordance with article 35, paragraph 1, of the Statute, the Seabed Disputes Chamber consists of 11 judges selected by the Tribunal from among its elected members. The members of the Chamber are selected triennially. As at 31 December 2024, the composition of the Chamber, in order of precedence, was as follows: Judge Attard, President; Judges Jesus, Kulyk, Kittichaisaree, Kolodkin, Lijnzaad, Duan, Brown, Caracciolo, Armas Pfirter and Joyini, members.

9. The terms of office of the members of the Chamber expire on 30 September 2026.

B. Special chambers

1. Chamber of Summary Procedure

10. The Chamber of Summary Procedure is established in accordance with article 15, paragraph 3, of the Statute and consists of five members and two alternates. The Chamber is constituted annually. As at 31 December 2024, the composition of the Chamber, in order of precedence, was as follows: Judge Heidar, President (ex officio); Vice-President Chadha (ex officio) and Judges Jesus, Kolodkin and Infante Caffi, members; Judges Rhee and Marciniak, alternates.

2. Chamber for Fisheries Disputes

11. On 20 February 1997, the Tribunal established the Chamber for Fisheries Disputes in accordance with article 15, paragraph 1, of the Statute. As at 31 December 2024, the composition of the Chamber, in order of precedence, was as follows: Judge Kittichaisaree, President; Judges Bouguetaia, Attard, Kulyk, Infante Caffi, Duan, Horinouchi, Joyini and Kamara, members.

12. The terms of office of the members of the Chamber expire on 30 September 2026.

3. Chamber for Marine Environment Disputes

13. On 20 February 1997, the Tribunal established the Chamber for Marine Environment Disputes in accordance with article 15, paragraph 1, of the Statute. As at 31 December 2024, the composition of the Chamber, in order of precedence, was as follows: Judge Lijnzaad, President; Judges Bouguetaia, Cabello Sarubbi, Kamga, Armas Pfirter, Horinouchi, Rhee, Kamara and Marciniak, members.

14. The terms of office of the members of the Chamber expire on 30 September 2026.

4. Chamber for Maritime Delimitation Disputes

15. On 16 March 2007, the Tribunal established the Chamber for Maritime Delimitation Disputes in accordance with article 15, paragraph 1, of the Statute. As at 31 December 2024, the composition of the Chamber, in order of precedence, was as follows: Judge Heidar, President (ex officio); Vice-President Chadha and Judges Jesus, Kolodkin, Brown, Caracciolo, Kamga, Rhee and Marciniak, members.

16. The terms of office of the members of the Chamber expire on 30 September 2026.

V. Committees

17. On 11 September 2024, during its fifty-eighth session, the Tribunal reconstituted its committees. The composition of the committees is provided in paragraphs 18 to 23 below.¹

A. Committee on Budget and Finance

18. The members of the Committee on Budget and Finance are: Judge Cabello Sarubbi, Chair; Judges Jesus, Kulyk, Kittichaisaree, Duan, Brown, Caracciolo, Kamga and Horinouchi, members.

B. Committee on Rules and Judicial Practice

19. The members of the Committee on Rules and Judicial Practice are: President Heidar, Chair; Vice-President Chadha and Judges Attard, Kolodkin, Lijnzaad, Duan, Brown, Armas Pfirter, Kamara and Marciniak, members.

C. Committee on Staff and Administration

20. The members of the Committee on Staff and Administration are: Judge Kamga, Chair; Judges Jesus, Kolodkin, Lijnzaad, Infante Caffi, Brown and Rhee, members. At the fifty-sixth session, Judge Jesus was selected as Chair of the Committee for the period ending 30 September 2024. Pursuant to the Tribunal's decision of 11 September 2024, Judge Kamga was selected as Chair of the Committee for the period from 1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025.

¹ For the terms of reference of the committees, see SPLOS/27, paras. 37–40; SPLOS/50, para. 37; and SPLOS/136, para. 46.

D. Committee on Library, Archives and Publications

21. The members of the Committee on Library, Archives and Publications are: Judge Infante Caffi, Chair; Judges Bouguetaia, Kulyk, Caracciolo, Horinouchi, Joyini and Kamara, members.

E. Committee on Buildings and Electronic Systems

22. The members of the Committee on Buildings and Electronic Systems are: Judge Marciniak, Chair; Judges Bouguetaia, Attard, Cabello Sarubbi, Kittichaisaree, Joyini and Rhee, members.

F. Committee on Public Relations

23. The members of the Committee on Public Relations are: Judge Caracciolo, Chair; Judges Attard, Armas Pfirter, Joyini, Rhee, Kamara and Marciniak, members.

VI. Meetings of the Tribunal

24. In 2024, the Tribunal held judicial meetings on the following matters:

(a) Case No. 31 on the list of cases of the Tribunal (advisory opinion):

Request for an advisory opinion submitted by the Commission of Small Island States on Climate Change and International Law (Request for Advisory Opinion submitted to the Tribunal)

The Tribunal met from 15 to 24 April and from 12 to 21 May 2024 to deliberate on and to consider and adopt the draft advisory opinion. The Tribunal delivered its advisory opinion on 21 May 2024.

(b) Case No. 33 on the list of cases of the Tribunal (provisional measures):

The "Zheng He" Case (Luxembourg v. Mexico), provisional measures

Initial deliberations of the Tribunal were held on 10 July 2024 to deal with the request for the prescription of provisional measures submitted by Luxembourg on 7 June 2024. The oral proceedings were held on 11 and 12 July 2024. The Tribunal met from 15 to 26 July 2024 to deliberate on and to consider and adopt the draft order. The Tribunal delivered its order on 27 July 2024.

25. The Tribunal also held two sessions devoted to legal and judicial matters and to organizational and administrative matters: the fifty-seventh session was held from 11 to 22 March and the fifty-eighth session from 9 to 20 September 2024.

26. The Tribunal decided to hold its fifty-ninth session from 31 March to 11 April 2025, to deal with both legal and judicial matters and organizational and administrative matters.

VII. Judicial work of the Tribunal

A. Request for an advisory opinion submitted by the Commission of Small Island States on Climate Change and International Law (Request for Advisory Opinion submitted to the Tribunal)

27. A request for an advisory opinion was filed with the Registry by the Commission of Small Island States on Climate Change and International Law on 12 December 2022 and entered into the list of cases as case No. 31. The request concerned the following:

What are the specific obligations of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, including under Part XII:

(a) To prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment in relation to the deleterious effects that result or are likely to result from climate change, including through ocean warming and sea level rise, and ocean acidification, which are caused by anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere?

(b) To protect and preserve the marine environment in relation to climate change impacts, including ocean warming and sea level rise, and ocean acidification?

28. With regard to the written proceedings and the hearing held in this case, reference is made to the annual report of the Tribunal for 2023 (SPLOS/34/2, paras. 66–72).

29. The Tribunal delivered its advisory opinion on 21 May 2024. It decided that it had jurisdiction to give the advisory opinion requested by the Commission and to respond to the request.

30. The replies to the questions submitted by the Commission as contained in the operative clause of the advisory opinion (para. 441) are reproduced below:

THE TRIBUNAL,

•••

Replies to Question (a) as follows:

(a) Anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions into the atmosphere constitute pollution of the marine environment within the meaning of article 1, paragraph 1, subparagraph 4, of the Convention.

(b) Under article 194, paragraph 1, of the Convention, States Parties to the Convention have the specific obligations to take all necessary measures to prevent, reduce and control marine pollution from anthropogenic GHG emissions and to endeavour to harmonize their policies in this connection. Such measures should be determined objectively, taking into account, *inter alia*, the best available science and relevant international rules and standards contained in climate change treaties such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement, in particular the global temperature goal of limiting the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and the timeline for emission pathways to achieve that goal. The scope and content of necessary measures may vary in accordance with the means available to States Parties and their capabilities. The necessary measures include, in particular, those to reduce GHG emissions.

(c) The obligation under article 194, paragraph 1, of the Convention to take all necessary measures to prevent, reduce and control marine pollution from

anthropogenic GHG emissions is one of due diligence. The standard of due diligence is stringent, given the high risks of serious and irreversible harm to the marine environment from such emissions. However, the implementation of the obligation of due diligence may vary according to States' capabilities and available resources.

(d) Under article 194, paragraph 2, of the Convention, States Parties have the specific obligation to take all measures necessary to ensure that anthropogenic GHG emissions under their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage by pollution to other States and their environment, and that pollution from such emissions under their jurisdiction or control does not spread beyond the areas where they exercise sovereign rights. This obligation applies to a transboundary setting and is a particular obligation in addition to the obligation under article 194, paragraph 1. It is also an obligation of due diligence. The standard of due diligence under article 194, paragraph 2, can be even more stringent than that under article 194, paragraph 1, because of the nature of transboundary pollution.

(e) In terms of specific sources of pollution, marine pollution from anthropogenic GHG emissions can be characterized as pollution from landbased sources, pollution from vessels, or pollution from or through the atmosphere.

(f) Under articles 207 and 212 of the Convention, States Parties have the specific obligation to adopt laws and regulations to prevent, reduce and control marine pollution from GHG emissions from land-based sources and from or through the atmosphere, respectively, taking into account internationally agreed rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures contained, *inter alia*, in climate change treaties such as the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. To this effect, States Parties have the specific obligations to take other necessary measures and, acting especially through competent international organizations or diplomatic conference, to endeavour to establish global and regional rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures.

(g) Under article 211 of the Convention, States Parties have the specific obligation to adopt laws and regulations to prevent, reduce and control marine pollution from GHG emissions from vessels flying their flag or of their registry, which must at least have the same effect as that of generally accepted international rules and standards established through the competent international organization or general diplomatic conference.

(h) Under articles 213 and 222 of the Convention, States Parties have the specific obligation to enforce their national laws and regulations and to adopt laws and regulations and take other measures necessary to implement applicable international rules and standards established through competent international organizations or diplomatic conference to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from anthropogenic GHG emissions from land-based sources and from or through the atmosphere, respectively.

(i) Under article 217 of the Convention, States Parties have the specific obligation to ensure compliance by vessels flying their flag or of their registry with applicable international rules and standards established through the competent international organization or general diplomatic conference and with their laws and regulations for the prevention, reduction and control of marine pollution from GHG emissions from vessels. To this end, they shall adopt laws and regulations and take other measures necessary for their implementation.

(j) Articles 197, 200 and 201, read together with articles 194 and 192 of the Convention, impose specific obligations on States Parties to cooperate, directly

or through competent international organizations, continuously, meaningfully and in good faith, in order to prevent, reduce and control marine pollution from anthropogenic GHG emissions. Under article 197, States Parties have the specific obligation to cooperate in formulating and elaborating rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures, consistent with the Convention and based on available scientific knowledge, to counter marine pollution from anthropogenic GHG emissions. Under article 200, States Parties have the specific obligations to cooperate to promote studies, undertake scientific research and encourage the exchange of information and data on marine pollution from anthropogenic GHG emissions, its pathways, risks and remedies, including mitigation and adaptation measures. Under article 201, States Parties have the specific obligation to establish appropriate scientific criteria on the basis of which rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures are to be formulated and elaborated to counter marine pollution from anthropogenic GHG emissions.

(k) Under article 202 of the Convention, States Parties have the specific obligation to assist developing States, in particular vulnerable developing States, in their efforts to address marine pollution from anthropogenic GHG emissions. This article provides for the obligation of appropriate assistance, directly or through competent international organizations, in terms of capacity-building, scientific expertise, technology transfer and other matters. Article 203 reinforces the support to developing States, in particular those vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, by granting them preferential treatment in funding, technical assistance and pertinent specialized services from international organizations.

Articles 204, 205 and 206 of the Convention impose on States Parties (1)specific obligations of monitoring, publishing the reports thereof and conducting environmental impact assessments as a means to address marine pollution from anthropogenic GHG emissions. Under article 204, paragraph 1, States Parties have the specific obligation to endeavour to observe, measure, evaluate and analyse the risks or effects of pollution of the marine environment from anthropogenic GHG emissions. Under article 204, paragraph 2, States Parties have the specific obligation to keep under continuing surveillance the effects of activities they have permitted, or in which they are engaged, in order to determine whether such activities are likely to pollute the marine environment through anthropogenic GHG emissions. Under article 205, States Parties have the specific obligation to publish the results obtained from monitoring the risks or effects of pollution from such emissions or to communicate them to the competent international organizations for their dissemination. Under article 206, States Parties have the specific obligation to conduct environmental impact assessments. Any planned activity, either public or private, which may cause substantial pollution to the marine environment or significant and harmful changes thereto through anthropogenic GHG emissions, including cumulative effects, shall be subjected to an environmental impact assessment. Such assessment shall be conducted by the State Party under whose jurisdiction or control the planned activity will be undertaken with a view to mitigating and adapting to the adverse effects of such emissions on the marine environment. The result of such assessment shall be reported in accordance with article 205 of the Convention.

...

Replies to Question (b) as follows:

(a) The Tribunal's response to Question (a) is relevant to its response to Question (b). Subparagraphs (j), (k) and (l) of operative paragraph (3) are of particular relevance in this regard.

(b) The obligation under article 192 of the Convention to protect and preserve the marine environment has a broad scope, encompassing any type of harm or threat to the marine environment. Under this provision, States Parties have the specific obligation to protect and preserve the marine environment from climate change impacts and ocean acidification. Where the marine environment has been degraded, this obligation may call for measures to restore marine habitats and ecosystems. Article 192 of the Convention requires States Parties to anticipate risks relating to climate change impacts and ocean acidification, depending on the circumstances.

(c) This obligation is one of due diligence. The standard of due diligence is stringent, given the high risks of serious and irreversible harm to the marine environment from climate change impacts and ocean acidification.

(d) Under article 194, paragraph 5, of the Convention, States Parties have the specific obligation to protect and preserve rare or fragile ecosystems as well as the habitat of depleted, threatened or endangered species and other forms of marine life from climate change impacts and ocean acidification.

(e) Under articles 61 and 119 of the Convention, States Parties have the specific obligations to take measures necessary to conserve the living marine resources threatened by climate change impacts and ocean acidification. In taking such measures, States Parties shall take into account, *inter alia*, the best available science and relevant environmental and economic factors. This obligation requires the application of the precautionary approach and an ecosystem approach.

(f) The obligation to seek to agree under article 63, paragraph 1, and the obligation to cooperate under article 64, paragraph 1, of the Convention, require States Parties, *inter alia*, to consult with one another in good faith with a view to adopting effective measures necessary to coordinate and ensure the conservation and development of shared stocks. The necessary measures on which consultations are required must take into account the impacts of climate change and ocean acidification on living marine resources. Under article 118 of the Convention, States Parties have the specific obligation to cooperate in taking measures necessary for the conservation of living marine resources in the high seas that are threatened by climate change impacts and ocean acidification.

(g) Under article 196 of the Convention, States Parties have the specific obligation to take appropriate measures to prevent, reduce and control pollution from the introduction of non-indigenous species due to the effects of climate change and ocean acidification which may cause significant and harmful changes to the marine environment. This obligation requires the application of the precautionary approach.

B. The M/T "Heroic Idun" (No. 2) Case (Marshall Islands/ Equatorial Guinea)

31. Further to consultations held by the President of the Tribunal with representatives of the Marshall Islands and Equatorial Guinea on 18 April 2023, a special agreement was concluded between the two States on the same date to submit

to a special chamber of the Tribunal to be formed pursuant to article 15, paragraph 2, of the Statute the dispute concerning the motor tanker *Heroic Idun* and its crew. The case was entered in the Tribunal's list of cases as case No. 32.

32. By order dated 27 April 2023, the Tribunal decided to accede to the request of the parties to form a special chamber of five judges to deal with the case, and determined the composition of the Special Chamber with the approval of the Marshall Islands and Equatorial Guinea as follows: Judge Hoffmann, President; Judges Infante Caffi and Brown; Judges ad hoc Gudmundur Eiriksson (chosen by Marshall Islands) and Philippe Couvreur (chosen by Equatorial Guinea).

33. By order dated 19 May 2023, the President of the Special Chamber, having ascertained the views of the parties, fixed 20 November 2023 as the time limit for the filing of the memorial by the Marshall Islands and 20 May 2024 as the time limit for the filing of the counter-memorial by Equatorial Guinea. Further to a request by the Marshall Islands, and having sought the views of the parties, the President of the Special Chamber, by order dated 16 November 2023, extended the time limit for the submission of the memorial by the Marshall Islands to 18 December 2023 and the time limit for the submission of the counter-memorial by Equatorial Guinea to 15 July 2024. The pleadings were filed within the prescribed time limits.

34. By order of 25 July 2024, the President of the Special Chamber, having ascertained the views of the parties, fixed 25 November 2024 as the time limit for the filing of the reply by the Marshall Islands and 24 March 2025 as the time limit for the filing of the rejoinder by Equatorial Guinea. The reply was filed within the prescribed time limit.

C. The "Zheng He" Case (Luxembourg v. Mexico), provisional measures

35. By application dated 3 June 2024 and filed with the Registry of the Tribunal on 4 June 2024, Luxembourg instituted proceedings against Mexico in a dispute regarding the vessel *Zheng He*. The case was entered in the list of cases as case No. 33 and named *The "Zheng He" Case*.

36. On 7 June 2024, Luxembourg submitted to the Tribunal a request for the prescription of provisional measures under article 290, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

37. By order dated 13 June 2024, the President, having ascertained the views of the parties, fixed 11 and 12 July 2024 as the dates for the hearing.

38. Both Luxembourg and Mexico chose judges ad hoc pursuant to article 17 of the Statute. Marcelo Gustavo Kohen was chosen as judge ad hoc by Luxembourg and Alberto Székely y Sánchez was chosen as judge ad hoc by Mexico.

39. On 3 July 2024, Mexico filed with the Registry a statement in response.

40. Prior to the opening of the hearing, the Tribunal held initial deliberations on 10 July 2024.

41. Oral statements were presented at public sittings held on 11 and 12 July 2024. The final submissions made by the parties at the hearing on 12 July 2024 are reproduced in the order of the Tribunal dated 27 July 2024, paragraphs 41 and 43.

42. The Tribunal delivered its order on 27 July 2024.

43. In its order, the Tribunal found that "a dispute concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention appears *prima facie* to have existed between the Parties on the date of the institution of the proceedings on the merits" (order, para. 84). It also noted that "the Applicant has invoked a number of provisions of the Convention as affording a basis on which *prima facie* the Tribunal's jurisdiction over the dispute

submitted to it might be founded" and recalled that, "at this stage of the proceedings, it need only satisfy itself that at least one of those provisions appears *prima facie* to afford such a basis" (ibid., para. 85). In this regard, the Tribunal considered that "article 131 of the Convention appears *prima facie* to afford a basis on which its jurisdiction might be founded" (ibid.). The Tribunal concluded that *prima facie* it has jurisdiction over the dispute submitted to it (ibid., para. 106).

44. The Tribunal noted that "Luxembourg is a landlocked State as defined in article 124 of the Convention" and that "its flagged vessel "*Zheng He*" is detained in the Port of Tampico, Mexico" (ibid., para. 122). It also noted "the opposing claims of the Parties concerning the alleged unequal treatment of the "*Zheng He*" in the Port of Tampico and evidence provided by them" (ibid., para 123). The Tribunal stated that it was "mindful that, at this stage of the proceedings, the Parties have not had sufficient opportunity to furnish all the evidence to establish their arguments in full" (ibid., para. 124) and found that, in the light of the foregoing, "the rights claimed by Luxembourg in the present case on the basis of article 131 of the Convention are plausible" (ibid., para. 125).

45. However, on the basis of the factual information and legal arguments presented by the parties, the Tribunal considered that "there is at present no urgency, in the sense that there is no real and imminent risk of irreparable prejudice to the rights claimed by Luxembourg" (ibid., para. 143). In this context, the Tribunal took note of assurances given by Mexico during the hearing on 11 and 12 July 2024, which are reproduced in the order (ibid, paras. 144 and 145).

46. For these reasons, the Tribunal found that "the circumstances, as they now present themselves to the Tribunal, are not such as to require the exercise of its powers to prescribe provisional measures under article 290, paragraph 1, of the Convention" (ibid., para. 149).

47. With regard to the continuation of the proceedings in the case, by order of 8 August 2024, taking into account the agreement of the parties, the President fixed 10 February 2025 as the time limit for the filing of the memorial by Luxembourg and 11 August 2025 as the time limit for the filing of the counter-memorial by Mexico.

VIII. Appointment of arbitrators by the President of the Tribunal pursuant to article 3 of annex VII to the Convention

48. In accordance with article 3 of annex VII to the Convention, if the parties to a dispute are unable to agree on the appointment of one or more members of the arbitral tribunal to be appointed by common agreement, or on the appointment of the president of the arbitral tribunal, the President of the Tribunal shall make the necessary appointment(s) at the request of any party to the dispute and in consultation with the parties. Pursuant to the same provision, any vacancy in the arbitral tribunal must be filled in the manner prescribed for the initial appointment.

49. In the arbitral proceedings under annex VII to the Convention instituted by Ukraine against the Russian Federation in the *Dispute Concerning the Detention of Ukrainian Naval Vessels and Servicemen (Ukraine v. the Russian Federation)* (Permanent Court of Arbitration case No. 2019-28), by letter dated 8 July 2024 and received on 9 July 2024, Ukraine informed President Heidar of the resignation of two arbitrators from the arbitral tribunal. The letter stated that Ukraine and the Russian Federation had been unable to reach agreement on the appointment of arbitrators and that Ukraine "requests that [President Heidar] appoint two new arbitrators ... pursuant to Article 3 of Annex VII". In the same letter, Ukraine also requested President Heidar to appoint the president of the arbitral tribunal. Further to consultations by

correspondence with the parties on the matter, on 8 August 2024 President Heidar appointed Mr. James Kateka (United Republic of Tanzania) and Ms. Joanna Mossop (New Zealand) as arbitrators in the arbitral proceedings, as well as Mr. Gudmundur Eiriksson (Iceland), a current member of the arbitral tribunal, as president of the arbitral tribunal. By a subsequent letter dated 14 October 2024, Ukraine informed President Heidar of the withdrawal, on 13 August 2024, of one arbitrator from the arbitral tribunal. The letter also indicated that Ukraine and the Russian Federation had been unable to reach agreement within 60 days of the notification of the withdrawal of 13 August 2024 and that Ukraine "requests that [President Heidar] appoint an arbitrator within 30 days of receipt of this request, pursuant to Article 3 of Annex VII". Further to consultations by correspondence with the parties, on 28 October 2024 President Heidar appointed Ms. Kathy-Ann Brown (Jamaica) as arbitrator in the arbitral proceedings.

IX. Legal matters

50. During the period under review, the Tribunal devoted part of its fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions to the consideration of legal and judicial matters. In this respect, the Tribunal examined various legal issues of relevance to its jurisdiction, its Rules and its judicial procedures. The review was undertaken by both the Tribunal and its chambers. Some of the subjects considered are listed below.

A. Jurisdiction of the Tribunal

51. During the period under review, the Tribunal took note of the information presented by the Registry concerning the status of declarations made under articles 287 and 298 of the Convention.

B. Recent developments in law of the sea matters

52. During the period under review, the Tribunal considered reports prepared by the Registry concerning recent developments in law of the sea matters.

C. Chambers

53. During the period under review, the chambers of the Tribunal held meetings at which they considered reports prepared by the Registry on matters falling under their responsibilities.

X. Agreement on Privileges and Immunities

54. The Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea was adopted by the seventh Meeting of States Parties on 23 May 1997. The Agreement was opened for signature for 24 months as from 1 July 1997^2 and entered into force on 30 December 2001. As at 31 December 2024, 41 States had ratified or acceded to the Agreement.

² SPLOS/24, para. 27.

XI. Relations with the United Nations

55. At its fifty-first session, the General Assembly, by its resolution 51/204 of 17 December 1996, granted observer status to the Tribunal.

56. On 12 December 2024, at a plenary meeting of the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly, the Vice-President of the Tribunal, on behalf of the President, delivered a statement under agenda item 75 (a), on oceans and the law of the sea.³ In her statement, she provided an overview of the judicial work of the Tribunal and an update on the developments that had taken place since the previous meeting of the Assembly, in particular regarding the *Request for an advisory opinion submitted by the Commission of Small Island States on Climate Change and International Law (Request for Advisory Opinion submitted to the Tribunal), The M/T "Heroic Idun" (No. 2) Case (Marshall Islands/Equatorial Guinea) and The "Zheng He" Case (Luxembourg v. Mexico).* The Vice-President also provided information to the Assembly on the Tribunal's capacity-building activities.

XII. Headquarters Agreement

57. The Agreement between the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and the Federal Republic of Germany regarding the Headquarters of the Tribunal was signed on 14 December 2004. In addition, the Agreement between the Tribunal and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on the Occupancy and Use of the Premises of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg was concluded on 18 October 2000.

58. During the period under review, the Registry, in cooperation with the Federal Building Authorities of Germany, made several improvements to the Tribunal's equipment and systems. In particular, the Federal Building Authorities completed the remaining works in connection with the replacement of the audiovisual equipment in the main courtroom of the Tribunal. They also carried out initial works relating to the renovation of the facade of the Tribunal building.

XIII. Finances

A. Budgetary matters

1. Budget of the Tribunal for 2025–2026

59. The budget proposals for the period 2025–2026 (SPLOS/34/6), approved by the Tribunal at its fifty-seventh session, were submitted to the thirty-fourth Meeting of States Parties. The proposals, involving an adjusted amount of 26,734,000 euros, were based on an evolutionary approach and guided by the principle of zero growth.

60. On 14 June 2024, the Meeting of States Parties adopted the budget for the period 2025–2026 in the amount of 26,734,000 euros, as proposed by the Tribunal.

2. Report on budgetary matters for the financial period 2023

61. At its fifty-seventh session, the Tribunal considered the report presented by the Registrar on budgetary matters for the financial period 2023 (SPLOS/34/3).

³ The text of the statement is available on the Tribunal's website at www.itlos.org and www.tidm.org.

Following consideration by the Tribunal, the report was submitted to the thirty-fourth Meeting of States Parties for its consideration.

3. Cash flow situation

62. At its fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions, the Tribunal took note of the information presented by the Registrar concerning the cash flow situation of the Tribunal.

B. Status of contributions

63. As at 31 December 2024, 114 States parties had made contributions to the budget for the financial period 2024, totalling 10,584,033 euros, while 56 States parties had not made any payments with respect to their assessed contributions for the financial period 2024. The balance of unpaid contributions with respect to the financial period 2024 was 1,137,917 euros. An amount of 2,763,185 euros was credited against the assessed contributions for 2025.

64. Furthermore, assessed contributions amounting to 739,326 euros in respect of the Tribunal's budgets for the budget periods 1996/1997 to 2023 were still pending as at 31 December 2024.

65. As at 31 December 2024, the balance of unpaid contributions with respect to the overall budget of the Tribunal amounted to 1,877,243 euros. In July 2024, the Registrar sent notes verbales to the States parties concerning their assessed contributions for the year 2025 of the Tribunal's 2025–2026 budget and information on outstanding contributions to the previous budgets.

C. Financial Regulations and Rules

66. With regard to the status of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Tribunal, reference is made to the annual report of the Tribunal for 2023 (SPLOS/34/2, paras. 93-95).⁴

67. Pursuant to financial regulation 12.1, the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties appointed BDO AG Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft as the Tribunal's auditor for the financial periods 2021–2024. The thirty-fourth Meeting of States Parties appointed the Audit Board of the Republic of Indonesia as auditor for the financial periods 2025–2028.

D. Report of the external auditor for the financial period 2023

68. The results of the audit for the financial period 2023 were presented by the Registrar at the fifty-seventh session of the Tribunal. The Committee on Budget and Finance noted the auditor's opinion that the financial statements provided a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Tribunal as at 31 December 2023 and of its financial performance for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2023 in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards. The Tribunal took note of the audit report for the financial period 2023 (SPLOS/34/4) and requested that the report be submitted to the thirty-fourth Meeting of States Parties. The thirty-fourth Meeting of States Parties took note with satisfaction of the report of the external auditor (SPLOS/34/12, para. 28).

⁴ The Financial Regulations and Rules of the Tribunal are contained in document SPLOS/120.

E. Trust funds and donations

69. On the basis of resolution 55/7 on oceans and the law of the sea, adopted by the General Assembly on 30 October 2000, a voluntary trust fund was established by the Secretary-General to assist States in connection with disputes to be settled by the Tribunal. According to information provided by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, the financial statements of the trust fund showed a balance of \$52,567.25 as at 31 December 2024.

70. In addition, the Registrar has established the following trust funds pursuant to financial regulation 6.5 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Tribunal: Nippon Foundation trust fund, trust fund for the Law of the Sea, China Institute of International Studies trust fund (closed in 2018), twentieth anniversary trust fund (closed in 2017) and a special account for a workshop to be held for legal advisers.

71. The Nippon Foundation trust fund was established in 2007, further to a grant provided the same year by the Nippon Foundation to fund the participation of fellows in a capacity-building and training programme on dispute settlement under the Convention. During the period 2007–2024, the Nippon Foundation made contributions to the trust fund in the amount of 4,414,480 euros. As at 31 December 2024, the balance of total reserves was 125,105 euros.

72. The trust fund for the Law of the Sea was established in 2010, pursuant to a decision of the Tribunal at its twenty-eighth session. The trust fund is intended to promote human resource development in developing countries in the law of the sea and maritime affairs in general. Contributions made to the trust fund are used to provide applicants from developing countries with financial assistance to enable them to participate in the Tribunal's internship programme and the summer academy as well as for the organization of regional workshops. States, intergovernmental organizations and agencies, national institutions, non-governmental organizations and international financial or other contributions to the trust fund. With regard to the contributions received between 2009 and 2023, reference is made to the annual report of the Tribunal for 2023 (SPLOS/34/2, para. 101). During the financial period 2024, two contributions from the Korea Maritime Institute totalling 31,000 euros, and one contribution from Cyprus in the amount of 15,000 euros were received. As at 31 December 2024, the balance of total reserves was 287,903 euros.

73. The Tribunal received voluntary contributions from the Government of the Republic of Korea in the amount of 688,372 euros between 2020 and 2023 and 295,739 euros in 2024. The contributions are used for capacity-building of legal advisers in the field of international dispute settlement in matters pertaining to the law of the sea. In accordance with regulation 6.5 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Tribunal, a special euro bank account was set up with Deutsche Bank for a workshop for legal advisers sponsored by the Republic of Korea. The contributions covered the expenses of high-level professionals involved in decision-making related to the law of the sea to enable them to participate in the workshop, the third of which was held on the premises of the Tribunal from 1 to 6 September 2024 (see para. 108 in the present report). As at 31 December 2024, the balance of total reserves was 192,708 euros.

74. In December 2022, the Tribunal and the Government of China signed a memorandum of understanding concerning Junior Professional Officers (see para. 84 in the present report). On the basis of the cost estimates provided by the Tribunal, a contribution in the amount of 164,310 euros was received from the Government of China in June 2024 and placed into a trust fund established for the purposes of the

Junior Professional Officer programme. A Junior Professional Officer was appointed on 1 July 2024 for a period of one year. The balance of the trust fund amounted to 68,461 euros as at 31 December 2024.

XIV. Administrative matters

75. During the period under review, the committees of the Tribunal considered various administrative matters within the scope of their activities; reference is made below to some of those matters.

A. Staff Regulations and Staff Rules

76. During the period under review, further to the recommendation of the Committee on Staff and Administration, the Tribunal took note of the amendments to the Staff Rules of the Tribunal concerning the pensionable remuneration for staff in the Professional and higher categories. Further to an additional recommendation of the Committee on Staff and Administration, the Tribunal also approved amendments to the Staff Rules concerning outside employment and activities of staff members in order to align the relevant rule with the corresponding provisions in the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations. Pursuant to regulations 12.2, 12.3 and 12.4 of the Staff Regulations of the Tribunal, the amendments to the Staff Rules that had been applied provisionally entered into full force and effect on 1 January 2025.

B. Staff recruitment

77. In 2024, the Tribunal recruited staff members for the posts of Head of Personnel and Building (P-4), Information Systems Officer (P-4), Legal Officer (P-3), Administrative Assistant (Procurement) (G-7) and Finance Assistant (G-6). A Junior Professional Officer (P-2) funded by the Government of China was also recruited in 2024. At the end of 2024, recruitment was in progress with respect to the posts of Legal Officer (P-4), Information Systems Assistant (G-7), Personal Assistant to the President (G-7) and Legal Assistant (G-6). At its fifty-ninth session, the Tribunal decided to transfer the currently vacant post of Building Coordinator (G-7) from the Building and Security Unit to the Personnel Unit, under the functional title of Administrative Assistant (G-7) and with a new job description. This transfer of post within the Administration Department will align the existing resources with the current requirements of the respective units and does not have any financial implications for the Tribunal.

78. A list of the staff members of the Registry as at 31 December 2024 is contained in annex I to the present report.

79. Temporary personnel were recruited to assist the Tribunal during its fiftyseventh and fifty-eighth sessions and during the hearings and deliberations in cases Nos. 31 and 33.

80. The Registry comprises 38 posts, of which 18 are in the Professional and higher categories.

81. The recruitment of staff members in the Professional category, excluding language staff, is subject to the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in accordance with regulation 4.2 of the Staff Regulations, which provides as follows:

The paramount consideration in the appointment, transfer or promotion of the staff shall be the necessity for securing the highest standards of efficiency,

competence and integrity. Due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible.

82. Taking into account the small number of staff in the Registry of the Tribunal, a flexible regional approach has been followed in this regard. The Tribunal has taken steps to ensure that vacancy announcements for posts in the Professional category are disseminated in such a way as to enable recruitment of staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible. Information on vacancies is transmitted to the embassies of the States parties to the Convention in Berlin and the permanent missions in New York. Information is also posted on the Tribunal's website and in the Tribunal's social media accounts (X and LinkedIn) and disseminated to United Nations Headquarters and the specialized agencies.

83. Although the principle of geographical distribution does not apply to the recruitment of General Service staff, the Tribunal has made efforts to recruit staff in that category on as wide a geographical basis as possible.

C. Junior Professional Officer programme

84. The Junior Professional Officer programme is governed by guidelines concerning the Junior Professional Officer programme of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, as adopted by the Tribunal in 2021. Junior Professional Officers are recruited under memorandums of understanding concluded between the Tribunal and participating States.⁵ A memorandum of understanding between the Tribunal and the Government of China concerning the Junior Professional Officer was recruited on 1 July 2024. A memorandum of understanding between the Tribunal and the Republic of Korea concerning the Junior Professional Officer was recruited on 7 February 2024.

D. Staff Pension Committee

85. Further to the proposal of the Tribunal, the sixteenth Meeting of States Parties decided that a Staff Pension Committee would be established with the following composition: (a) one member and one alternate member to be chosen by the Meeting; (b) one member and one alternate member to be appointed by the Registrar; and (c) one member and one alternate member to be elected by the staff. The term of office of members and alternates is three years.

86. On 15 June 2022, the thirty-second Meeting of States Parties adopted a decision extending the nominations of Indonesia as member and Canada as alternate member of the Staff Pension Committee for a three-year term of office starting on 1 January 2023 (SPLOS/32/13).

E. Language classes at the Tribunal

87. English and French classes for Registry staff members were held in 2024.

⁵ The text of the guidelines and a model memorandum of understanding are available on the Tribunal's website at www.itlos.org and www.tidm.org.

XV. Buildings and electronic systems

A. Building arrangements and new requirements

88. During the fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions, the Registrar presented reports on building arrangements and use of the Tribunal's premises. The reports were prepared by the Registry for review by the Committee on Buildings and Electronic Systems and by the Tribunal with a view to improving working conditions at the Tribunal.

B. Use of the premises and public access

89. The following events took place on the premises of the Tribunal during 2024:

(a) International Foundation for the Law of the Sea summer academy, from 29 July to 23 August 2024;

(b) Third workshop for legal advisers (sponsored by the Republic of Korea), from 1 to 6 September 2024 (see para. 108);

(c) Symposium marking the thirtieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention, jointly organized by the International Foundation for the Law of the Sea and the Korea Maritime Institute, on 21 and 22 September 2024.

XVI. Library facilities and archives

90. During the fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions, the Registrar reported on several matters pertaining to the Library, including the collections and an integrated library management system. The Registrar also presented reports on the archive collections and databases.

91. A list of donors to the Library is contained in annex II to the present report.

XVII. Publications

92. During the period under review, the status of the Tribunal's publications was reviewed by the Committee on Library, Archives and Publications and by the Tribunal.

93. In 2024, the following volumes were published:

- (a) Yearbook 2023, vol. 27;
- (b) Reports of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders 2022–2023, vol. 20;
- (c) Pleadings, Minutes of Public Sittings and Documents 2023, vol. 33;
- (d) Pleadings, Minutes of Public Sittings and Documents 2024, vol. 34.

XVIII. Public relations

94. During the period under review, the Committee on Public Relations gave consideration to a set of measures to provide and disseminate information on the work of the Tribunal and participation by representatives of the Tribunal in international legal meetings.

95. The Tribunal publicized its work by means of its website, press releases and briefings by the Registry, and through the distribution of its judgments, orders and publications.

96. The website of the Tribunal can be accessed at the following addresses: www.itlos.org (English) and www.tidm.org (French). The texts of judgments and orders of the Tribunal and the verbatim records of hearings, as well as other information about the Tribunal, are available on the website.

97. In 2024, judges and Registry staff members delivered lectures and published papers on the work of the Tribunal.

XIX. Capacity-building activities

98. A number of capacity-building activities relating to the work of the Tribunal continued to be conducted in 2024.

A. Internship programme

99. The internship programme of the Tribunal, which was established in 1997, is designed to give participants the opportunity to gain an understanding of the work and functions of the Tribunal. Funding has been available for applicants from developing countries to assist them in covering the costs incurred in travelling to Hamburg and participating in the programme. The trust fund for the Law of the Sea is currently used to provide financial assistance to interns.

100. As at 31 December 2024, a total of 433 interns from 113 States had participated in the programme, 188 of whom had received funding.

101. In 2024, 15 interns from 15 States (Albania, Argentina, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chad, China, Colombia, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Georgia, Japan, Kenya, Liberia and Viet Nam) participated in the programme at the Tribunal.

102. Information on the programme and an online application form can be obtained from the Tribunal's website.

B. Capacity-building and training programme

103. In 2024, for the eighteenth time, a capacity-building and training programme on dispute settlement under the Convention was conducted with the support of the Nippon Foundation. The Nippon Foundation Grant was set up in 2007 to provide fellows with capacity-building and training and to assist them in covering the costs of participation in the programme. Programme participants attend lectures on topical issues related to the law of the sea and visit institutions of interest. Information about the programme can be obtained from the Registry or from the Tribunal's website.

104. Nationals of Botswana, Eritrea, Hungary, India, Libya and the Syrian Arab Republic are participating in the 2024/25 programme (July 2024–March 2025).

C. Regional workshops

105. The Tribunal has organized a series of workshops in different regions of the world on the settlement of disputes related to the law of the sea. The purpose of the workshops is to provide government experts engaged in work on maritime and law of

the sea matters with insight into the procedures for dispute settlement contained in part XV of the Convention, with special emphasis on the jurisdiction of the Tribunal and the procedural rules applicable to cases before the Tribunal.

106. No regional workshop was held in 2024.

D. Summer academy

107. The International Foundation for the Law of the Sea held the sixteenth summer academy on the Tribunal's premises from 29 July to 23 August 2024. A total of 42 participants from 38 countries attended lectures on issues relating to the law of the sea and maritime law. The lectures were given by judges of the Tribunal and the Registrar, as well as by experts, practitioners, representatives of international organizations and scientists.

E. Workshop for legal advisers (sponsored by the Republic of Korea)

108. The Tribunal, with the financial support of the Republic of Korea (see para. 73 in the present report), held the third workshop for legal advisers on international dispute settlement in matters pertaining to the law of the sea, at the seat of the Tribunal, from 1 to 6 September 2024. The aims of the workshop were to familiarize legal advisers, in particular from developing countries, with the dispute settlement mechanisms under the Convention and to provide insight into the Tribunal's procedure and practice. The third workshop was designed for legal advisers from Latin American and Caribbean States. Representatives from the following 27 States participated in the workshop: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). The lectures were given by the President and Vice-President of the Tribunal, judges of the Tribunal and the Registrar, as well as experienced international adjudication practitioners and leading academics in the field.

Annex I

Information on staff (2024)

Professional and higher categories A.

Name	Title	Country of nationality	Level of post	Level of incumbent
Hinrichs Oyarce, Ximena	Registrar	Chile	ASG	ASG
Ollivier, Antoine	Deputy Registrar	France	D-2	D-2
Füracker, Matthias	Senior Legal Officer, Head of Legal Office	Germany	P-5	P-5
Gaultier, Léonard	Senior Translator/Reviser, Head of Linguistic Services	France	P-5	P-5
Mizerska-Dyba, Elzbieta	Head of Library and Archives	Poland	P-4	P-4
Ritter, Roman	Head of Budget and Finance	Germany	P-4	P-4
Pak, Joomi	Translator/Reviser (English)	France	P-4	P-4
Benatar, Marco	Legal Officer	South Africa	P-4	P-4
Ferla, Federico	Head of Personnel and Building	Uruguay	P-4	P-4
Mba, Patrice	Information Systems Officer	Cameroon	P-4	P-3
Vacant	Legal Officer		P-4	
Rostan, Jean-Luc	Translator (French)	France	P-3	P-3
Phan, Hao	Legal Officer	Viet Nam	P-3	P-3
Ritter, Julia	Press Officer ^a	United Kingdom	P-2	P-2
Buergers-Vereshchak, Svitlana	Associate Administrative Officer (Contributions/Budget)	Ukraine	P-2	P-2
Berberovic, Dejan	Associate Archivist	Bosnia and Herzegovina	P-2	P-2
Steenkamp, Robert	Associate Press Officer ^a	South Africa	P-2	P-2
Bothe, Andreas	Building Facilities Management and Security Officer	Germany	P-2	P-2
De Herdt, Sandrine	Associate Legal Officer	Burkina Faso	P-2	P-2
Tang, Yuhao	Junior Professional Officer ^b	China	P-2	P-2

Note: Number of posts totals 18 and one Junior Professional Officer.

Abbreviation: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General.

^a 50 per cent part-time post.
^b Funded by the Government of China.

B. General Service

Name	Title	Country of nationality	Level of post	Level of incumbent
Egert, Anke	Publications/Personal Assistant (Registrar)	Germany	G-7	G-7
Albiez, Berit	Linguistic Assistant/Judiciary Support	Germany	G-7	G-7
Goldhagen, Sylvia	Personal Assistant (President)	Germany	G-7	G-7
Naegler, Thorsten	Administrative Assistant (Procurement)	Germany	G-7	G-7
Vacant	Building Coordinator		G-7	
Vacant	Information System Assistant		G-7	
Karanja, Elizabeth	Administrative Assistant	Kenya	G-6	G-6
Bartlett, Emma	Personnel Assistant	United Kingdom	G-6	G-6
Heim, Svenja	Library Assistant	Germany	G-6	G-6
Gomez Ramirez, Sebastian	Administrative Assistant (Finance)	Germany	G-6	G-6
Rouault, Stéphanie	Linguistic Assistant/Judiciary Support	France	G-6	G-6
Vacant	Finance Assistant		G-6	
Vacant	Legal Assistant		G-6	
Fusiek, Christoph	Finance Assistant (Accounts Payable)	Germany	G-5	G-5
Schneider, Inga	Administrative Assistant	Germany	G-5	G-5
Fislage, Sylvie	Personal Assistant (Deputy Registrar)	France	G-5	G-5
Banerjee, Mita	Administrative Assistant	Germany	G-5	G-5
Duddek, Sven	Senior Security/Administrative Assistant	Germany	G-5	G-5
Aziamble, Papagne	Senior Security/Administrative Assistant	Togo	G-5	G-5
Ntinugwa, Chuks	Security/Administrative Assistant	Germany	G-4	G-4

Note: Number of posts totals 20.

Annex II

List of donors to the Library of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea as at 31 December 2024

Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos, San José, Costa Rica

Gabriela A. Oanta, Instituto Universitario de Estudios Europeos "Salvador de Madariaga", Universidade da Coruña, A Coruña, Spain

International Court of Justice, The Hague, Netherlands (Kingdom of the)

International Progress Organization, Vienna, Austria

Japan Branch of the International Law Association, Tokyo, Japan

Japanese Society of International Law, Tokyo, Japan

Mareverlag, Hamburg, Germany

Bimal N. Patel, Vice-Chancellor, Rashtriya Raksha University, Lavad-Dahegam, Gandhinagar, India

Walther-Schücking-Institut für Internationales Recht an der Universität Kiel, Kiel, Germany

Roman Zykov, Mansors, Helsinki, Finland