

**23 JANUARY 2012**

**ORDER**

**CONSTRUCTION OF A ROAD IN COSTA RICA  
ALONG THE SAN JUAN RIVER**

**(NICARAGUA v. COSTA RICA)**

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**CONSTRUCTION D'UNE ROUTE AU COSTA RICA  
LE LONG DU FLEUVE SAN JUAN**

**(NICARAGUA c. COSTA RICA)**

**23 JANVIER 2012**

**ORDONNANCE**

**INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE**

**YEAR 2012**

**2012  
23 January  
General List  
No. 152**

**23 January 2012**

**CONSTRUCTION OF A ROAD IN COSTA RICA  
ALONG THE SAN JUAN RIVER**

**(NICARAGUA *v.* COSTA RICA)**

**ORDER**

*Present:* *President* OWADA; *Vice-President* TOMKA; *Judges* KOROMA, SIMMA, ABRAHAM, KEITH, SEPÚLVEDA-AMOR, BENNOUNA, SKOTNIKOV, CANÇADO TRINDADE, YUSUF, GREENWOOD, XUE, DONOGHUE; *Registrar* COUVREUR.

The International Court of Justice,

Composed as above,

After deliberation,

Having regard to Article 48 of the Statute of the Court and to Articles 31, 44, 45, paragraph 1, 48 and 49 of the Rules of Court,

Having regard to the Application filed in the Registry of the Court on 22 December 2011, whereby the Republic of Nicaragua instituted proceedings against the Republic of Costa Rica “for violations of Nicaraguan sovereignty and major environmental damages on its territory”, referring to “Costa Rica’s construction of a road running parallel . . . to the southern bank of the [San Juan] River” and posing “[t]he the most immediate threat to the River and its environment”;

Whereas on 22 December 2011 a certified copy of the Application was transmitted to the Republic of Costa Rica;

Whereas the Republic of Nicaragua has appointed H.E. Mr. Carlos J. Argüello Gómez as Agent; and whereas the Republic of Costa Rica has appointed H.E. Mr. Edgar Ugalde Álvarez as Agent and H.E. Mr. Jorge Urbina Ortega and Mr. Sergio Ugalde as Co-Agents;

Whereas, at a meeting held by the President of the Court with the representatives of the Parties on 19 January 2012, the latter expressed the views of their respective Governments regarding the time-limits that were necessary to prepare the first round of written pleadings; whereas H.E. Mr. Carlos J. Argüello Gómez, Agent of Nicaragua, indicated that his Government would be in a position to file its Memorial in the case at the end of 2012; and whereas H.E. Mr. Jorge Urbina Ortega, Co-Agent of Costa Rica, expressed his Government's agreement to such a time-limit, as long as Costa Rica was afforded an equivalent time-limit for the filing of its Counter-Memorial;

Taking into account the agreement of the Parties,

*Fixes* the following time-limits for the filing of the written pleadings:

19 December 2012 for the Memorial of the Republic of Nicaragua;

19 December 2013 for the Counter-Memorial of the Republic of Costa Rica; and

*Reserves* the subsequent procedure for further decision.

Done in English and in French, the English text being authoritative, at the Peace Palace, The Hague, this twenty-third day of January, two thousand and twelve, in three copies, one of which will be placed in the archives of the Court and the others transmitted to the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua and the Government of the Republic of Costa Rica, respectively.

(Signed) Hisashi OWADA,  
President.

(Signed) Philippe COUVREUR,  
Registrar.

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