

INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA



YEAR 2011

18 August 2011

**THE M/V "VIRGINIA G" CASE**

(PANAMA/GUINEA-BISSAU)

**ORDER**

The President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea,

Having regard to articles 24 and 27 of the Statute of the Tribunal,

Having regard to articles 45, 46, 55, 56, 59, and 61 of the Rules of the Tribunal,

*Makes the following Order:*

Whereas, by a letter dated 4 July 2011, the Agent of Panama notified the Tribunal of a special agreement concluded by an exchange of notes, dated 29 June and 4 July 2011, between the Republic of Panama and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, to submit to the Tribunal a dispute regarding the vessel *Virginia G*;

Whereas a certified copy of the notification dated 4 July 2011 submitted by Panama was communicated to Guinea-Bissau on the same day;

Whereas in the light of the agreement of the Parties, as expressed through their exchange of notes dated 29 June and 4 July 2011, to submit their dispute concerning the vessel *Virginia G* to the Tribunal for adjudication, and of the notification by the Agent of Panama dated 4 July 2011, the case was entered in the List of cases as Case No.19 on 4 July 2011;

Whereas Panama has appointed Mr Ramón García Gallardo as Agent; and whereas Guinea-Bissau has appointed Mr Luís Menezes Leitão as Agent, and Mr Fernando Manuel Loureiro Bastos as Co-Agent;

Whereas consultations were held by the President with the representatives of the Parties on 17 August 2011 to ascertain the views of the

Parties with regard to questions of procedure in respect of the case concerning the *Virginia G*;

Whereas, during these consultations, the Agent of Panama and the Agent of Guinea-Bissau agreed on the following order and time-limits for the filing of the written pleadings:

4 January 2012, for the filing of the Memorial by Panama, and

21 May 2012, for the filing of the Counter-Memorial by Guinea-Bissau;

Whereas, during these consultations, the Agent of Panama and the Agent of Guinea Bissau agreed that, should the Tribunal find it necessary to authorize the presentation of a reply and a rejoinder, the time-limits for the filing of these pleadings should be as follows:

21 August 2012, for the filing of the Reply by Panama, and

21 November 2012, for the filing of the Rejoinder by Guinea-Bissau;

#### THE PRESIDENT

Taking into account the agreement of the Parties,

*Fixes* the following time-limits for the pleadings in the case:

4 January 2012 for the Memorial of Panama; and

21 May 2012 for the Counter-Memorial of Guinea-Bissau;

*Reserves* the subsequent procedure for further decision.

Done in English and in French, both texts being authoritative, in the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, this eighteenth day of August, two thousand and eleven, in three copies, one of which will be placed in the archives of the Tribunal and the others transmitted to the Government of Panama and the Government of Guinea-Bissau, respectively.



JOSE LUIS JESUS  
President.



PHILIPPE GAUTIER,  
Registrar.

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