

19 SEPTEMBER 2014

ORDER

**QUESTION OF THE DELIMITATION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF BETWEEN
NICARAGUA AND COLOMBIA BEYOND 200 NAUTICAL MILES FROM THE
NICARAGUAN COAST**

(NICARAGUA *v.* COLOMBIA)

**QUESTION DE LA DÉLIMITATION DU PLATEAU CONTINENTAL ENTRE LE
NICARAGUA ET LA COLOMBIE AU-DELÀ DE 200 MILLES MARINS
DE LA CÔTE NICARAGUAYENNE**

(NICARAGUA *c.* COLOMBIE)

19 SEPTEMBRE 2014

ORDONNANCE

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

YEAR 2014

**2014
19 September
General List
No. 154**

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NICARAGUA AND COLOMBIA BEYOND 200 NAUTICAL MILES FROM THE
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(NICARAGUA *v.* COLOMBIA)

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Present: *President* TOMKA; *Vice-President* SEPÚLVEDA-AMOR; *Judges* OWADA, ABRAHAM, KEITH, BENNOUNA, SKOTNIKOV, YUSUF, GREENWOOD, XUE, DONOGHUE, GAJA, SEBUTINDE, BHANDARI; *Judge ad hoc* BROWER; *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 Article 79 of the Rules of Court,

Having regard to the Application filed in the Registry of the Court on 16 September 2013, whereby the Republic of Nicaragua instituted proceedings against the Republic of Colombia with regard to a dispute in relation to “the delimitation of the boundaries between, on the one hand, the continental shelf of Nicaragua beyond the 200-nautical-mile limit from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea of Nicaragua is measured, and on the other hand, the continental shelf of Colombia”;

Whereas, following a meeting that the President held with the Agents of the Parties on 6 December 2013, the Court, by Order of 9 December 2013, taking into account the agreement reached by the Parties during that meeting, fixed 9 December 2014 and 9 December 2015, respectively, as the time-limits for the filing of a Memorial by Nicaragua and a Counter-Memorial by Colombia;

Whereas, the Court not including upon the Bench a judge of the nationality of either of the Parties, Colombia, exercising its right under Article 31, paragraph 3, of the Statute, chose Mr. Charles Brower to sit as judge *ad hoc* in the case; and whereas Nicaragua has reserved its right to appoint a judge *ad hoc* in the case;

Whereas, on 14 August 2014, before the expiry of the time-limit for the filing of the Memorial of Nicaragua, Colombia, referring to Article 79 of the Rules of Court, raised certain preliminary objections to the jurisdiction of the Court and to the admissibility of the Application; and whereas these were immediately communicated to Nicaragua;

Whereas, by letter dated 14 September 2014 and received in the Registry on 15 September 2014, Colombia expressed the wish to be informed of the time-limit within which Nicaragua might present, under Article 79, paragraph 5, of the Rules of Court, a written statement of its observations and submissions on the preliminary objections made by Colombia;

Whereas, by letter dated 16 September 2014 and received in the Registry on 17 September 2014, Nicaragua, though expressing its surprise that the said objections were raised four months before the expiry of the time-limit for the filing of its Memorial, requested the Court, in the case that the proceedings on the merits were suspended, to be given a sufficient time-limit to present a written statement of its observations and submissions on those objections;

Whereas, in accordance with Article 79, paragraph 5, of the Rules of Court, the proceedings on the merits are suspended, and it falls to the Court to fix a time-limit by which the Applicant might present a written statement of its observations and submissions on the preliminary objections,

Fixes 19 January 2015 as the time-limit within which the Republic of Nicaragua may present a written statement of its observations and submissions on the preliminary objections raised by the Republic of Colombia; 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 nineteenth day of September, two thousand and fourteen, 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 Colombia, respectively.

(Signed) Peter TOMKA,
President.

(Signed) Philippe COUVREUR,
Registrar.