



EMBASSY OF COLOMBIA
The Hague – The Netherlands

The Hague, 2 September 2010.

Dear Sir,

I refer to your letter dated 10 June 2010 informing the Parties that the Court has fixed 2 September 2010 as the time-limit for the filing of written observations by the Parties in the case concerning *Territorial and Maritime Dispute (Nicaragua v. Colombia)* regarding the application of Honduras for permission to intervene.

Colombia notes that Honduras's application is grounded on Article 62 of the Statute of the Court and that Honduras also invokes Article 36, paragraph 1, of the Statute.

Colombia also notes that the intervention request presented by Honduras excludes the territorial aspect of the dispute before the Court.

Colombia further notes that Honduras' intervention request is limited to areas located north of the 15th parallel and west of the 80th meridian that were delimited by the 1986 Treaty between Colombia and Honduras. In the present case, Nicaragua's claim encompasses those areas. For its part, Colombia has drawn a line with an arrow to illustrate its claim, to avoid encroaching potential areas in which third countries could have a legal interest.

The Honduran application requests the Court to authorize it to intervene either as a party to the main case in order to settle definitively the dispute over the delimitation line between Honduras and Nicaragua fixed in the Court's 2007 Judgment and the tri-point on the 1986 treaty line between Honduras and Colombia or, on a subsidiary basis, as a non-party in order to protect its rights and to inform the Court of its interests of a legal nature which may be affected by a decision in the case.

With respect to the request to be permitted to intervene as a non-party, Colombia has no objection. Colombia has acknowledged that vis-à-vis Honduras it is bound by the delimitation agreed in the 1986 Treaty between Colombia and Honduras. However, this is not the case vis-à-vis Nicaragua and Colombia has consequently reserved its rights in this area.

To His Excellency
Mr. Philippe Couvreur
Registrar
International Court of Justice

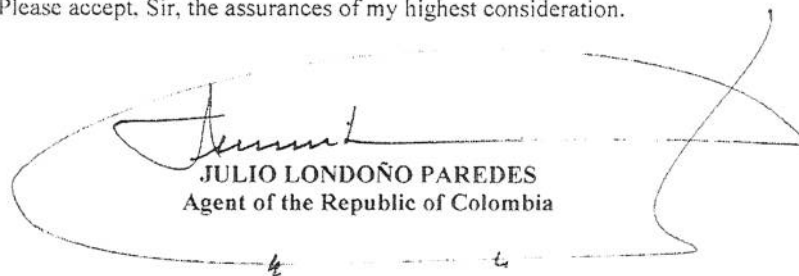


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With respect to the Honduran request to be permitted to intervene as a party, Colombia understands that this request raises issues relating to the Court's 2007 Judgment in the *Nicaragua v. Honduras* case to which Colombia was not a party. Consequently, Colombia considers that this request falls to the Court to decide under Article 62 of the Statute, taking into account whether the object and purpose of the request relates to intervention under Article 62 in the main case between Nicaragua and Colombia or to another dispute not directly at issue in the pending case.

With respect to certain points raised in Honduras's Application, Colombia reserves its position and its right to address such points as necessary at the appropriate stage of the proceedings.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.



JULIO LONDOÑO PAREDES
Agent of the Republic of Colombia