



INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA  
TRIBUNAL INTERNATIONAL DU DROIT DE LA MER

# Press Release

**ELECTION OF JUDGE JOSE LUIS JESUS AS PRESIDENT  
OF THE TRIBUNAL**

Judge José Luis Jesus was today elected as President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for the period 2008–2011 by the 21 members of the Tribunal. President José Luis Jesus has been a member of the Tribunal since 1999. In accordance with the Rules of the Tribunal, the President is elected for a period of three years and may be re-elected. He presides at all meetings of the Tribunal, directs its work and supervises its administration. He represents the Tribunal in its relations with States and other entities and is the only judge required to reside permanently at the seat of the Tribunal in Hamburg.



The outgoing President, Judge Rüdiger Wolfrum conducted the election for the presidency. He expressed his gratitude to his colleagues for their invaluable support during his three-year term of office and gave his best wishes to the new President.

(more)  
For information media - not an official record  
also available at <http://www.itlos.org> and <http://www.tidm.org>

**President José Luis Jesus**

**Born:** Vila da Ribeira Grande – Santo Antão, Cape Verde, 20 September 1950. **Education:** Law Degree, School of Law, Classical University of Lisbon (1978); International Law Certificate, Saint John's University, New York (1985); M.A., Government and Politics, Saint John's University, New York (1985). **Professional Experience:** Delegate and Head of Cape Verde delegation to the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea (1979–1982); Sixth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly (1979–1994); Counsellor (Legal Adviser) (1981–1987), Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Cape Verde (1987–1991), Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Cape Verde to the United Nations in New York (1991–1994); Chairman, Group of 77 for the Law of the Sea (1986); Chairman, Group of African States at the United Nations (1986); Head of the Cape Verde delegation to United Nations Conference on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations, Vienna (1986); Chairman, Preparatory Commission for the International Seabed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (1987–1995); President, United Nations Security Council (July 1992 and November 1993); Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the Great Lakes Region, Central Africa (1994); Ambassador of Cape Verde to Portugal, Spain and Israel (1994–1996); Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (1996–1998); Minister of Foreign Affairs and Communities (1998–1999); Chairman, National Commission on the Delimitation of Maritime Boundaries, Cape Verde; Legal Consultant for technical assistance in the drafting of fisheries legislation, FAO; Lecturer at several seminars on the Law of the Sea. **Member:** Cape Verde Bar Association. **Publications:** Author of publications in the fields of the law of the sea and humanitarian law.

The Press Releases of the Tribunal, documents and other information are available on the Tribunal's websites: <http://www.itlos.org> and <http://www.tidm.org> and from the Registry of the Tribunal. Please contact Ms Julia Ritter or Ms Johanna van Kisfeld at Am Internationalen Seegerichtshof 1, 22609 Hamburg, Germany, Tel.: +49 (40) 35607-227, Fax: +49 (40) 35607-245;

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