



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

Press Release

CASE ON CONSERVATION OF SWORDFISH STOCKS BETWEEN CHILE AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY IN THE SOUTH-EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN

TIME-LIMITS EXTENDED AT THE REQUEST OF THE PARTIES

At the request of Chile and the European Community, the President of the Special Chamber of the Tribunal formed to deal with the *Case concerning the Conservation and Sustainable Exploitation of Swordfish Stocks in the South-Eastern Pacific Ocean*, Judge Chandrasekhara Rao, extended the time-limit for making preliminary objections until 1 January 2006, by Order dated 16 December 2003.

Proceedings in the said case were instituted on 19 December 2000 by Chile and the European Community and, at the request of the parties, the Tribunal constituted a Special Chamber of five judges to deal with the case.

On 9 March 2001, the parties informed the President of the Special Chamber that they had reached a provisional arrangement concerning the dispute and requested that the proceedings before the Chamber be suspended. By Order of 15 March 2001, the President of the Special Chamber extended the time-limit of 90 days for the making of preliminary objections so that it would commence from 1 January 2004.

By letters respectively dated 31 October 2003 and 11 November 2003, Chile and the European Community requested that the time-limits for the proceedings before the Special Chamber continue to be suspended for a further period of two years and maintained their right to revive the proceedings at any time.

This case remains on the docket of the Tribunal.

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 Pope at Am Internationalen Seegerichtshof 1, 22609 Hamburg, Germany, Tel.: +49 (40) 35607-227, Fax: +49 (40) 35607-245; E-mail: press@itlos.org
