



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

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Armed Activities on the Territory of the Congo (New Application: 2002) **(Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Rwanda)**

Conclusion of the public hearings

Court ready to begin its deliberation

THE HAGUE, 8 July 2005. The public hearings in the case concerning Armed Activities on the Territory of the Congo (New Application: 2002) (Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Rwanda) were concluded today. The Court will now start its deliberation.

At the hearings, which opened on 4 July 2005 at the Peace Palace, seat of the Court, the delegation of the Democratic Republic of the Congo was led by H.E. Maître Honorius Kisimba Ngoy Ndalewe, Minister of Justice and Keeper of the Seals of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The delegation of Rwanda was led by H.E. Martin Ngoga, Deputy Prosecutor General of the Republic of Rwanda, as Agent.

The Court's Judgment will be delivered at a public sitting, the date of which will be announced in due course. It is to be noted that the Judgment will deal with the issues of the jurisdiction of the Court and the admissibility of the Application and not with the merits of the case.

Final submissions of the Parties

On Wednesday 6 July 2005 Rwanda presented the following final submissions:

“The Republic of Rwanda requests the Court to adjudge and declare that:

1. it lacks jurisdiction over the claims brought against the Republic of Rwanda by the Democratic Republic of the Congo; and
2. in the alternative, the claims brought against the Republic of Rwanda by the Democratic Republic of the Congo are inadmissible.”

On Friday 8 July 2005 the Democratic Republic of the Congo presented the following final submissions:

“May it please the Court,

1. to find that the objections to jurisdiction and admissibility raised by Rwanda are unfounded;

2. consequently, to find that the Court has jurisdiction to entertain the case on the merits and that the Application of the Democratic Republic of the Congo is admissible as submitted;
3. to decide to proceed with the case on the merits.”

History of the proceedings and full transcripts of the hearings

The history of the proceedings as well as the full transcripts of the hearings held between 4 July and 8 July 2005 can be found on the Court’s website at the following address: www.icj-cij.org. Click on “Docket” and then on the hyperlink bearing the name of the case to view press release 2005/12.

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