

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

REPORTS OF JUDGMENTS,  
ADVISORY OPINIONS AND ORDERS

GUATEMALA'S TERRITORIAL, INSULAR  
AND MARITIME CLAIM

(GUATEMALA/BELIZE)

**ORDER OF 22 APRIL 2020**

**2020**

COUR INTERNATIONALE DE JUSTICE

RECUEIL DES ARRÊTS,  
AVIS CONSULTATIFS ET ORDONNANCES

REVENDEICATION TERRITORIALE, INSULAIRE  
ET MARITIME DU GUATEMALA

(GUATEMALA/BELIZE)

**ORDONNANCE DU 22 AVRIL 2020**

Official citation:

*Guatemala's Territorial, Insular and Maritime  
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22 APRIL 2020

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ORDONNANCE

## INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

2020  
22 April  
General List  
No. 177

YEAR 2020

**22 April 2020****GUATEMALA'S TERRITORIAL, INSULAR  
AND MARITIME CLAIM****(GUATEMALA/BELIZE)****ORDER**

*Present: President YUSUF; Vice-President XUE; Judges TOMKA, ABRAHAM, BENNOUNA, CANÇADO TRINDADE, DONOGHUE, GAJA, SEBUTINDE, BHANDARI, ROBINSON, CRAWFORD, GEVORGIAN, SALAM, IWASAWA; Registrar GAUTIER.*

The International Court of Justice,

Composed as above,

After deliberation,

Having regard to Article 48 of the Statute of the Court and to Article 44, paragraph 3, of the Rules of Court,

Having regard to the "Special Agreement between Guatemala and Belize to submit Guatemala's territorial, insular and maritime claim to the International Court of Justice" of 8 December 2008 (hereinafter the "Special Agreement") and the Protocol thereto of 25 May 2015 (hereinafter the "Protocol"),

Having regard to the Order of 18 June 2019, whereby the Court, referring to Article 3, paragraph 2, of the Special Agreement and to Article 3 of the Protocol, fixed 8 June 2020 and 8 June 2021, respectively, as the time-limits for the filing of a Memorial by the Republic of Guatemala and of a Counter-Memorial by Belize;

Whereas, by a letter dated 8 April 2020 and handed in to the Registry on the same day, the Agent of the Republic of Guatemala requested an extension of twelve months for the filing of Guatemala's Memorial, explaining that the COVID-19 pandemic had resulted in delays in his Government's preparation of that pleading; and whereas, upon receipt of that letter, the Registrar transmitted a copy thereof to the Agent of Belize, in accordance with Article 44, paragraph 3, of the Rules of Court;

Whereas, by a letter dated 15 April 2020 and received in the Registry on 16 April 2020, the Agent of Belize responded that the Government of Belize objected to Guatemala's request; he added however that, should the Court consider that the impact of the pandemic merited some extension, in his Government's opinion, an extension of two months would be sufficient in the circumstances;

Taking account of the views of the Parties,

*Extends* to 8 December 2020 the time-limit for the filing of the Memorial of the Republic of Guatemala;

*Extends* to 8 June 2022 the time-limit for the filing of the Counter-Memorial of Belize; 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 twenty-second day of April, two thousand and twenty, 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 Guatemala and the Government of Belize, respectively.

(*Signed*) Abdulqawi Ahmed YUSUF,  
President.

(*Signed*) Philippe GAUTIER,  
Registrar.

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