

The following information from the Registry of the International Court of Justice is communicated to the Press:

At 3 p.m. on Monday, 15 March, in the Peace Palace at The Hague, the International Court of Justice will begin public hearings on the merits in the South West Africa cases (Ethiopia *v.* South Africa; Liberia *v.* South Africa). Proceedings against South Africa were instituted on 4 November 1960 by Applications of Ethiopia and Liberia. On 20 May 1961 the Court made an Order in which it found that Ethiopia and Liberia were in the same interest and joined the proceedings so instituted. South Africa thereafter filed preliminary objections to the jurisdiction of the Court, and the proceedings on the merits were suspended. On 21 December 1962 the Court delivered a Judgment in which it rejected the four preliminary objections raised by South Africa, and upheld its jurisdiction. The intervening period has been occupied with the written proceedings on the merits of the dispute.

When he opens the public sitting on 15 March at 3 p.m., the President of the International Court of Justice will make a declaration to mark the twentieth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, which falls in 1965.

As the Court in its regular composition does not include upon the bench judges of the nationalities of the Parties, Ethiopia and Liberia on the one hand and South Africa on the other have respectively chosen to sit as judges *ad hoc*, in accordance with Article 31 of the Statute of the Court, Sir Louis Nwachukwu Mbanefo, Chief Justice of the Eastern Region of Nigeria, and the Hon. Jacques Theodore van Wyk, Judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of South Africa. These judges *ad hoc* also sat in the preliminary objections phase of the cases.

The Parties will be represented as follows:

The Empire of Ethiopia:

Agents: H.E. Dr. Tesfaye Gebre-Egzy;

Hon. Ernest A. Gross,  
Member of the New York Bar;

Counsel: Mr. Edward R. Moore,  
Under Secretary of State of Liberia;

Mr. Keith Highet,  
Member of the New York Bar;

The ....

The Republic of Liberia:

Agents: H.E. Mr. Nathan Barnes;  
Hon. Ernest A. Gross,  
Member of the New York Bar;

Counsel: Mr. Edward R. Moore,  
Under Secretary of State of Liberia;  
Mr. Keith Hight,  
Member of the New York Bar.

The Republic of South Africa:

Agents: Professor J.P. verLoren van Themaat, S.C.,  
Professor of International Law at the  
University of South Africa and Consultant  
to the Department of Foreign Affairs;  
Mr. R. McGregor,  
Deputy Chief State Attorney;

Counsel: Mr. D.P. de Villiers, S.C.,  
Member of the South African Bar;  
Mr. G. van R. Muller, S.C.,  
Member of the South African Bar;  
Dr. P.J. Rabie, S.C.,  
Member of the South African Bar;  
Mr. E.M. Grosskopf,  
Member of the South African Bar;  
Dr. H.J.O. van Heerden,  
Member of the South African Bar;

Advisers: Mr. D.B. Sole,  
Under Secretary, Department of Foreign  
Affairs;  
Mr. R.F. Botha,  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Advocate  
of the Supreme Court of South Africa;  
Mr. H.J. Allen,  
Department of Bantu Administration and  
Development;

Secretary: Mr. H. Heese,  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Advocate  
of the Supreme Court of South Africa.

As a general rule the Court will sit during half of each day only, on Mondays from 3-6 p.m. and from Tuesday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., with a brief adjournment after the first hour and twenty minutes. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in French and English.

The Hague, 11 March 1965.