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INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Communiqué

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Delimitation of the Maritime Boundary
in the Gulf of Maine Area
(Canada/United States of America)

The following information is made available to the press by the Registry of the International Court of Justice:

At its first private meeting, on 29 January 1982, the Chamber which the Court formed by its Order of 20 January 1982 to deal with the dispute between Canada and the United States over the question of delimitation of the maritime boundary of the two countries in the Gulf of Maine area elected Judge Roberto Ago as its President.

The Chamber is composed as follows: Judge Ago, President; Judges Gros, Mosler and Schwebel; Judge ad hoc Cohen.

On the same day, 29 January, the Chamber held its first public sitting, at which speeches were made by Acting President of the Court Elias and by the President of the Chamber, Judge Ago, as well as the Agent of Canada, Mr. Legault, and the Agent of the United States, Mr. Robinson. Professor Cohen, the judge ad hoc chosen by Canada, made the solemn declaration required by the Statute and Rules of the Court.

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On 1 February 1982 the Court made an Order fixing 26 August 1982 as the time-limit for the filing of Memorials by Canada and the United States. It took that decision the Parties having confirmed the indications given in the Special Agreement and the Chamber having been consulted. The subsequent procedure has been reserved for further decision.

The Order was adopted by 10 votes against 2 (Judges Morozov and El-Khani).

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