



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

REPORTS OF JUDGMENTS,  
ADVISORY OPINIONS AND ORDERS

CASE CONCERNING MARITIME DELIMITATION  
AND TERRITORIAL QUESTIONS  
BETWEEN QATAR AND BAHRAIN

(QATAR v. BAHRAIN)

ORDER OF 1 FEBRUARY 1996

**1996**

COUR INTERNATIONALE DE JUSTICE

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AFFAIRE DE LA DÉLIMITATION MARITIME  
ET DES QUESTIONS TERRITORIALES  
ENTRE QATAR ET BAHREÏN

(QATAR c. BAHREÏN)

ORDONNANCE DU 1<sup>ER</sup> FÉVRIER 1996

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## INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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CASE CONCERNING MARITIME DELIMITATION  
AND TERRITORIAL QUESTIONS  
BETWEEN QATAR AND BAHRAIN

(QATAR v. BAHRAIN)

## ORDER

*Present:* *President* BEDJAOUÏ; *Vice-President* SCHWEBEL; *Judges* ODA, GUILLAUME, SHAHABUDDEEN, WEERAMANTRY, RANJEVA, HERCZEGH, SHI, FLEISCHHAUER, KOROMA, VERESHCHETIN, FERRARI BRAVO, HIGGINS; *Registrar* VALENCIA-OSPINA.

The International Court of Justice,

Composed as above,

After deliberation,

Having regard to Article 48 of the Statute of the Court and to Articles 31 and 44 of the Rules of Court,

Having regard to the Order dated 28 April 1995, by which the Court fixed 29 February 1996 as the time-limit for the filing by each of the Parties of a Memorial on the merits;

Whereas by a letter dated 3 January 1996, received by facsimile in the Registry on 5 January 1996, the original of which was received the same day by courier, the Foreign Minister of the State of Bahrain *inter alia* requested the Court, for the reasons set out in that letter, to extend to 30 November 1996 the time-limit for the filing of the Memorial of his Government on the merits;

Whereas a copy of that letter was immediately transmitted by the Deputy-Registrar to the Agent of the State of Qatar, who was invited to inform the Court as soon as possible of any views his Government might wish to state under Article 44, paragraph 3, of the Rules of Court;

Whereas by a letter dated 6 January 1996, received by facsimile in the Registry on 8 January 1996, the original of which was received on 11 January 1996, the Agent of Qatar *inter alia* indicated that, in the view of his Government, "such a long extension" as that requested by the Foreign Minister of the State of Bahrain found "inadequate justification" in the terms of his letter;

Whereas, for the purpose of further ascertaining the views of the Parties, the President invited their Agents or representatives to attend a meeting, the date of which was fixed as 22 January 1996, and whereas the two Parties were duly represented;

Taking into account the views expressed by the Parties at that meeting and the particular circumstances of the case,

*Extends* to 30 September 1996 the time-limit for the filing by each of the Parties of a Memorial on the merits; 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 first day of February, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-six, in three copies, one of which will be placed in the archives of the Court and the others transmitted to the Government of the State of Qatar and the Government of the State of Bahrain, respectively.

(*Signed*) Mohammed BEDJAOUI,  
President.

(*Signed*) Eduardo VALENCIA-OSPINA,  
Registrar.