More Information

On the choice of procedure:

On the means for the settlement of disputes under UNCLOS:
www.itlos.org/
www.icj-cij.org/
www.pca-cpa.org/

On the functions of the Secretary-General as Depositary of Multilateral Treaties:
treaties.un.org/


14 June 2017
Conference Room 2

Organized by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs
Choice of Procedure

Article 287 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) provides that when signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention or at any time thereafter, a State shall be free to choose, by means of a written declaration, one or more of the following means for the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or application of this Convention:

- the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea;
- the International Court of Justice;
- an arbitral tribunal constituted in accordance with Annex VII to UNCLOS;
- a special arbitral tribunal constituted in accordance with Annex VIII to UNCLOS for one or more of the categories of disputes specified therein.

In accordance with UNCLOS, if the parties to a dispute have accepted the same procedure, it may be submitted only to that procedure, unless the parties otherwise agree. However, if the parties have not accepted the same procedure, it may be submitted only to arbitration in accordance with Annex VII, unless the parties otherwise agree.

UNCLOS also establishes that if a State Party is not covered by a declaration in force, it shall be deemed to have accepted arbitration in accordance with Annex VII.

Event Schedule

Introduction
13:15 Mr. Miguel de Serpa Soares, Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and United Nations Legal Counsel

Means for the settlement of disputes under article 287 of UNCLOS
13:30 International Court of Justice
        H.E. Judge Ronny Abraham, President of the Court
13:45 International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
        Mr. Philippe Gautier, Registrar of the Tribunal
14:00 Arbitration under Annex VII to UNCLOS
        Mr. Dirk Pulkowski, Senior Legal Counsel, Permanent Court of Arbitration

The role of the Depositary in relation to declarations under article 287 of UNCLOS
14:15 Mr. Santiago Villalpando, Chief, Treaty Section, United Nations Office of Legal Affairs

Questions and Answers
14:30 Moderated by Ms. Gabriele Goettsche-Wanli, Director, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, United Nations Office of Legal Affairs