

25 FEBRUARY 2026

ORDER

EMBASSY OF MEXICO IN QUITO

(MEXICO v. ECUADOR)

AMBASSADE DU MEXIQUE À QUITO

(MEXIQUE c. ÉQUATEUR)

25 FÉVRIER 2026

ORDONNANCE

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

YEAR 2026

**2026
25 February
General List
No. 194**

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(MEXICO v. ECUADOR)

ORDER

Present: *President* IWASAWA; *Vice-President* SEBUTINDE; *Judges* TOMKA, ABRAHAM, XUE, NOLTE, CHARLESWORTH, BRANT, GÓMEZ ROBLEDO, CLEVELAND, AURESCU, TLADI, HMOUD, OKOWA; *Judge ad hoc* MCRAE; *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 Articles 31, 44, 45, paragraph 2, and 48 of the Rules of Court,

Having regard to the Application filed in the Registry of the Court on 11 April 2024, whereby the United Mexican States (hereinafter “Mexico”) instituted proceedings against the Republic of Ecuador (hereinafter “Ecuador”) with respect to “legal questions concerning the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means and diplomatic relations, and the inviolability of a diplomatic mission”,

Having regard to the Order of 19 July 2024, whereby the Court fixed 22 April 2025 and 22 January 2026 as the respective time-limits for the filing of a Memorial by Mexico and a Counter-Memorial by Ecuador,

Having regard to the Memorial of Mexico and the Counter-Memorial of Ecuador filed within the time-limits thus fixed;

Whereas, on 11 February 2026, a meeting was held by the President of the Court with the Agents and representatives of the Parties pursuant to Article 31 of the Rules of Court, in order to ascertain their views on the subsequent procedure in the case;

Whereas, at the meeting, counsel for Mexico expressed the opinion that a second round of written pleadings would be of benefit to the Court; whereas he further indicated that the Government of Mexico wished the case to be resolved as expeditiously as possible and that, given the non-voluminous nature of the first round of written pleadings, a short period of time would suffice for the preparation of a Reply and a Rejoinder; whereas counsel for Mexico therefore proposed that the Court accord each Party a period of four months for the filing of its respective pleading; whereas the Co-Agent of Ecuador stated that his Government did not object to a second round of written pleadings; and whereas the Co-Agent observed that Ecuador would require a period of eight months for the filing of its Rejoinder;

Whereas counsel for Mexico recalled that the Court had previously granted nine months for the preparation of the Memorial and the Counter-Memorial, and noted that the Court generally fixed much shorter time-limits for the filing of a second round of written pleadings compared to the first round; whereas he emphasized that the Government of Mexico was willing to show flexibility with a view to reaching an understanding with Ecuador, but that a period of eight months would be excessive; and whereas counsel for Ecuador indicated that Ecuador could accept a time-limit of six months for the filing of its Rejoinder;

Whereas counsel for Mexico stated that, while his Government remained willing to reach an agreement with Ecuador concerning the length of the time-limits, it was of the opinion that a period of time in excess of five months would not be appropriate;

Taking into account the views of the Parties,

Authorizes the submission of a Reply by the United Mexican States and a Rejoinder by the Republic of Ecuador;

Fixes the following time-limits for the filing of the written pleadings:

25 August 2026 for the Reply of the United Mexican States;

25 February 2027 for the Rejoinder of the Republic of Ecuador; 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-fifth day of February, two thousand and twenty-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 United Mexican States and the Government of the Republic of Ecuador, respectively.

(Signed) IWASAWA Yuji,
President.

(Signed) Philippe GAUTIER,
Registrar.
