

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

GENERAL TOPICS

1.2 International Court of Justice



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NOTE

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WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

The International Court of Justice (hereinafter, the ICJ or the Court) is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. It offers an important forum for the settlement of international economic disputes among States.

This module is intended for those who wish to examine the option of approaching the Court for the settlement of economic disputes. It provides an overview of the functioning of the Court and of its jurisprudence bearing upon international economic issues. A detailed analysis is made of the organization, jurisdiction and procedures of the Court. This analysis enables an assessment of the advantages the Court presents for the settlement of international economic disputes.

OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this Module the reader should be able to:

- Distinguish the special features of the ICJ;
- Identify its structure;
- Explain the law governing its jurisdiction;
- Analyse the procedure applicable to cases before the Court;
- Discuss some important cases involving the economic interests of States and individuals; and
- Assess the usefulness of the Court for the resolution of economic disputes.

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