



**INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA
TRIBUNAL INTERNATIONAL DU DROIT DE LA MER**

Press Release

SWEARING-IN OF JUDGE GAO ZHIGUO

Hamburg, 3 March 2008. At a public ceremony held this morning, Mr Gao Zhiguo (China) was sworn in as a member of the Tribunal. Judge Gao was elected on 30 January 2008 at a Special Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Xu Guangjian (China) on 15 August 2007. Judge Gao will serve the remainder of his predecessor's nine-year term, which expires on 30 September 2011.

In accordance with article 11 of the Statute of the Tribunal, before taking up duties, a newly-elected judge has to make the solemn declaration to exercise his powers as judge impartially and conscientiously.

The curriculum vitae of Judge Gao may be found on the website of the Tribunal at: www.itlos.org/general_information/judges/text_en.shtml.

The press releases of the Tribunal, documents and other information are available on the Tribunal's websites: www.itlos.org and www.tidm.org and from the Registry of the Tribunal. Please contact Ms Julia Ritter:
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