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COMMUNIQUE

9 February 2010

With deep sadness the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal announces that Professor Dr. Krzysztof Skubiszewski, the President of the Tribunal, passed away on 8 February 2010 after a brief illness while on vacation in Warsaw.

Professor Skubiszewski was appointed President of the Tribunal on 16 February 1994 in succession to Judge José María Ruda, and was the Tribunal's longest serving President.

During a long and distinguished career, Professor Skubiszewski taught international law at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan and conducted research at the Institute of Law of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw. He lectured in international law at several universities in Poland and elsewhere, including the Universities of London, Geneva, Paris, Oxford, Cambridge, Berlin, Vienna and Graz as well as at The Hague Academy of International Law and the Max-Planck-Institute in Heidelberg. He received honorary degrees from several universities, and was a Member of the Polish Academy of Sciences and of the *Institut de Droit International*. He is the author of four books and numerous publications on international law.

He served as Judge *ad hoc* at the International Court of Justice in the case concerning *East Timor (Portugal v. Australia)* and the case concerning *Gabčikovo-Nagymaros Project (Hungary v. Slovakia)*.

Joining the "Solidarity" movement in 1980, he served as a member of the Primateal Social Council (1981-4) and of the Consultative Council to the Chairman of the Polish Council of State, until its dissolution in the spring of 1989.

Professor Skubiszewski served as Poland's Minister of Foreign Affairs from September 1989 until October 1993.

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A Condolence Book will be open at the Tribunal's offices, Parkweg 13, 2585JH The Hague, on Monday 15 February 2010, from 10.00 to 12.00 hours, and from 14.00 to 16.00 hours.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations in The Hague