

### *South West Africa cases:*

#### *Ethiopia v. South Africa : Liberia v. South Africa*

In November 1960, Ethiopia and Liberia instituted proceedings against South Africa in relation to the continued existence of its mandate for South West Africa and performance of its duties as mandatory. South Africa contested the Court's jurisdiction to hear the cases and, in December 1962, the Court decided by a vote of 8 to 7 that it did have jurisdiction to adjudicate on the merits of the disputes. South Africa filed its Counter-Memorial on the merits and Ethiopia and Liberia filed their Reply before the deadline of June 20, 1964. The Joinder of South Africa was filed on December 23, 1964, and with its submission the written pleadings were completed.

#### *Barcelona Traction Case (New Application 1962):*

##### *Belgium v. Spain*

This case was originally instituted by Belgium against Spain in 1958 in connection with the adjudication in bankruptcy in Spain in 1948 of the Barcelona Traction Light and Power Company Limited, an open stock company formed in Toronto in 1911 and registered under Canadian law. The share capital of the company belonged largely to Belgian nationals. The Belgian Government claimed that the measures, acts, decisions and omissions of the organs of the Spanish state by virtue of which the company was declared bankrupt and its property liquidated were contrary to international law and that Spain was responsible for the resulting damage and obligated to restore property rights and interests of the company as they existed prior to its bankruptcy, or to pay compensation to Belgium for the loss of these rights and interests. In April 1961, with Belgium's decision not to continue with the proceedings and Spain's agreement to the discontinuance, the case was removed from the list. Subsequent negotiations between the two parties failed, however, to reach a settlement and, in June 1962, Belgium submitted a new application requesting the Court to declare Spain under an obligation to Belgium to make reparation or pay compensation for the damage caused by the actions of Spain to the Belgian shareholders of the company, and to declare that such reparation or compensation should, as far as possible, annul all the consequences for Belgian nationals of the acts contrary to international law committed by Spain.

In March 1963, Spain filed four preliminary objections to the jurisdiction of the Court, which the Court dealt with in its judgement of July 24, 1964 :