



# IMLI NEWS

*Circulated in more than 100 States to personalities in the legal and maritime professions*



THE MAGAZINE OF THE IMO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW INSTITUTE - MALTA. No. 24/2009

## ADDRESS BY THE IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL AND CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF IMLI AT THE 20TH ANNUAL GRADUATION CEREMONY ON 2 MAY 2009

Minister(s), Excellencies, Representative of Malta to IMO, IMLI Director, REMPEC Director, Representative of The Nippon Foundation, Professors, Parents, Graduands, Distinguished guests, Media representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again it is my great pleasure to be here in this beautiful Mediterranean country to participate in the joyous occasion that is the annual graduation ceremony at IMLI. This year sees IMLI celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> year in full-scale operation, with another class of graduates bidding farewell to this centre of academic excellence, fully equipped with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in the professional arena.

Any graduation ceremony tends to be a happy occasion; for the students themselves it represents the successful culmination of a great deal of hard work, a reward for all those hours of study and attending lectures, while, for the teaching staff, it represents another mission successfully accomplished and, for the parents, one of their proudest moments.

But an IMLI graduation ceremony has an added dimension. Students come to the Institute to acquire knowledge that will be of benefit, not only to themselves as individuals, but to their entire community; which means that the broad smiles and the sense of achievement that can be seen on the faces of the students who we are here to honour today, will also be shared by all those who were responsible for putting them forward as candidates in the first place and who will now, no doubt, be eagerly looking forward to them coming home and putting what they have learned into practice.

Over the years, IMLI has produced a body of expert and qualified maritime lawyers who are now, collectively, making a very positive and valuable contribution in pursuance of the objectives espoused by IMO – safe, secure and efficient shipping on clean oceans.

For, while IMO's main work is to develop and maintain a comprehensive framework of international conventions, codes and other legal instruments designed to promote these ends, the real value of such legal instruments lies in the effectiveness, thoroughness and uniformity of their implementation throughout the world – and an essential element in this is the establishment of an appropriate legal infrastructure at the national level.

Such an infrastructure must embrace an up-to-date legislative regime, with suitable machinery for the review, revision and modification of legislation to keep it in line with changes in international maritime law and the latest developments in marine technology and shipping practices. It is in this that the contribution of IMLI and its graduates has been, and continues to be, so invaluable.

The subject areas in which graduates of the Institute have found it necessary to immerse themselves in the course of their professional lives have always been varied and diverse – and that shows no sign of change in the immediate future. For example, the Organization's continuing work on measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from shipping, as summed up in our World Maritime Day theme for 2009 – "Climate change: a challenge for IMO too!", is scheduled to result in new IMO regulations that will need to be translated into national legislation, if they are, through implementation and enforcement, to contribute effectively to worldwide efforts to reduce climate change and global warming. Equally important, but quite different in terms of technical expertise, is the need to develop adequate legislative structures to address, for example, the current alarming situation concerning piracy off the coast of East Africa, so that alleged pirates can be duly arrested or extradited, prosecuted and then imprisoned if found guilty by a court of law.

What is clear is that, as ever, IMLI's graduates face stimulating challenges and have opportunities to carve out rewarding and interesting careers in maritime-related law. And this applies equally to the 37 students from 24 States and territories world-wide that have been undertaking LL.M. studies at IMLI this year. They will bring the total number of students who have undertaken training at the Institute in all programmes and courses, to 517, from 115 States and territories across the globe.

And, in a very recent development, I was delighted to learn, only two days ago, that the Government of Malta has announced that it now officially recognizes all qualifications awarded by IMLI, through its Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports. This means



*H.E. Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos  
(Secretary-General, IMO and Chairman,  
Governing Board of IMLI)*

that IMLI's qualifications will be formally recognized by educational authorities throughout the world – which is very good news for all concerned, not least, for today's graduands.

As IMLI celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I should like to express my deep appreciation for the Institute's successes as a whole and, to the Director and the dedicated teaching and administrative staff in particular, my thanks for their contribution in imparting invaluable knowledge and expertise to the benefit of students, their Governments and the maritime community at large.

I should also like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the many donors, supporters and benefactors who, down the years, have provided funding, in-kind support and expertise necessary for the Institute's continuing operation. While it may seem invidious to single out any of these, since there have been so many contributions and all have been very gratefully received, I feel special mention should be made of The Nippon Foundation, whose support for IMLI has been unstinting and outstanding over many years. And, this year, the participants in the European Union's SAFEMED project and Lloyd's Register of Shipping have also been outstanding contributors meriting our special gratitude.

And, of course, none of the Institute's achievements would have been possible without the generous facilities provided by the host Government of Malta and the continued support of the Malta Maritime Authority. I offer them both my sincere thanks.

As I said, my thanks go to all the many donors and supporters – and, to any who may still be considering whether or not to join their ranks, I would draw their attention to resolution 63/111 of the United Nations General Assembly, on Oceans and the law of the sea, which was adopted in December last year. Not only did this formally recognize the importance of IMLI's work as a centre of education and training – high praise indeed from such an august body – but it also urged States, intergovernmental organizations and financial institutions to make financial contributions to the Institute's budget; I sincerely hope that message will be taken to heart and acted upon.

Finally, I should like to say a few words specifically to today's assembled graduands, the real "stars of the show" today. Given the environmental and economic problems the world is currently facing, the significance of international shipping as a cost-effective and 'green' form of transport has never been more marked. Shipping will support the global economy as it eventually recovers and will help to guarantee sustainable prosperity in the future. As graduates of IMLI, you will have an important role to play in ensuring this vital industry is effectively and fairly regulated.

May I, therefore, congratulate the graduation class of 2009 and wish you every success in your future endeavours. You join a band of illustrious predecessors, who count ministers of justice, attorneys general, chief justices, ambassadors, chief executives and senior corporate managers among their number – not to mention delegates to the IMO Legal Committee! I have no doubt that you, the 2009 graduates, will also have high achievers among you, whether in your own countries or on the international stage.

You have worked hard for your success and I am confident that today will mark not just the end of your academic studies but the beginning of new careers, which will be rewarding for you, your countries and the entire shipping community. And I would like to say how much we in IMO appreciate the efforts you have made. I wish you every success in whatever you do once back home!

Thank you – and once again, congratulations.



*H.E. Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos (Secretary-General, IMO and Chairman, Governing Board of IMLI), Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI), Professor Dr. Marko Pavliha (Professor of Commercial, Transport and Insurance Law, University of Ljubljana) and the IMLI Class 2008-2009 during the Graduation Ceremony*

## LONDON CELEBRATION OF IMLI'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

The year 2009 marked the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the IMO International Maritime Law Institute. To celebrate IMLI's 20 years in the service of the rule of international maritime law, the Secretary-General of IMO, H.E. Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos held a Commemorative Seminar at the IMO Headquarters in London on 5 May 2009.

The Panel of Speakers, presided by H.E. Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos (Secretary-General of IMO) included Professor David Attard (Director of IMLI), Professor Francis M.B. Reynolds Q.C. (Barrister/Professor Emeritus, University of Oxford / IMLI Visiting Fellow), Ambassador Lino Vassallo (Permanent Representative of Malta to IMO) and Mr. Yohei Sasakawa (Chairman of The Nippon Foundation).

The seminar was attended by many distinguished guests including Mr. William A. O'Neil, (Secretary-General Emeritus of IMO), Members of the IMLI Governing Board, Diplomatic Representatives and IMLI graduates from all over the world.

During the seminar Mr. Yohei Sasakawa (Chairman of The Nippon Foundation), received the IMLI "Award for Meritorious Contribution towards the Dissemination, Harmonization and Implementation of International Maritime Law"



*H.E. Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos (Secretary-General, IMO and Chairman, Governing Board of IMLI) delivering the keynote address*



*Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) delivering the opening remarks*



*Professor Francis M.B. Reynolds Q.C. (Barrister/Professor Emeritus, University of Oxford / IMLI Visiting Fellow) delivering his address*



*Ambassador Lino Vassallo (Permanent Representative of Malta to IMO) delivering his address on behalf of IMLI's Host State, the Government of Malta*



*H.E. Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos (Secretary-General, IMO and Chairman, Governing Board of IMLI) presenting the IMLI "Award for Meritorious Contribution towards the Dissemination, Harmonization and Implementation of International Maritime Law" to Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, (Chairman, The Nippon Foundation)*



*Mr. Yohei Sasakawa (Chairman, The Nippon Foundation) delivering his address*



*H.E. Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos (Secretary-General and Chairman, Governing Board of IMLI), Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI), Mr. Yohei Sasakawa (Chairman, The Nippon Foundation) and IMLI graduates*



## DONORS 2009 – 2010

## IMO

The International Maritime Organization continues to support IMLI's funding requirements. It annually provides scholarships which are intended for deserving government-nominated candidates who wish to pursue post-graduate studies in international maritime law at IMLI. This academic year IMO provided six full and one partial scholarships which were awarded to: Mr. Solomon Habtom Weldu (Eritrea), Mr. Jo Man Gun (DPR Korea), Mr. Kim Chol Yong (DPR Korea), Mr. Isaac Lysor Jallah (Liberia), Mr. Kenneth Ikechukwu Nwaohiri (Nigeria), Ms. Merida Cable (St. Kitts and Nevis), and Ms. Francesca Galea (Malta).

At the end of every academic year, the IMO Secretary-General's Prize is awarded to the student who writes the best dissertation.

The 2009 Secretary-General's Prize for Best Dissertation was awarded to Mrs. Amanza Walton-Desir (Guyana)



*H.E. Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos (Secretary General, IMO) presents the IMO Secretary-General's Prize for Best Dissertation to Mrs. Amanza Walton-Desir (Guyana) during the 2009 Graduation Ceremony*

## SAFEMED

The "Euro-med Cooperation on Maritime Safety and Prevention of Pollution from Ships – SAFEMED" (SAFEMED) is an EU-funded project which is being implemented by REMPEC. The SAFEMED project seeks to mitigate the imbalance in the application of maritime legislation in the region among Mediterranean partners who are not members of the European Union (EU) and those who are. The SAFEMED project provided in the past 10 scholarships to qualified, government-nominated IMLI students coming from the Mediterranean partners of Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.



*Mr. Frederic Hebert (Director, REMPEC) presents the REMPEC Marine Environment Law Prize to Mrs. Agatha James-Andries (St. Kitts and Nevis) during the 2009 Graduation Ceremony.*

Under the follow up project "SAFEMED II" which just commenced, an additional five scholarships will be granted during the three year implementation period. All the project beneficiaries will be invited to nominate possible candidates, but priority will be given to those beneficiaries whose staff has not yet had the opportunity to participate in the IMLI programme. For the academic year 2009-2010 Ms. Makbule Kocak (Turkey) was selected as scholar under the Project.

At the end of every academic year, the REMPEC Marine Environment Law Prize is awarded to the student who has the best overall performance in marine environmental law.

## IMLI ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

Applications to the following academic programmes are now being invited:

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW** – The Programme is solely researched-based and involves a high degree of independence from candidates. It requires the submission and successful defence of a thesis of not more than 100,000 words. Studies for the degree should be completed within three to five years from first enrolment. To qualify for the Programme, candidates must hold a Master's Degree from a recognized university or academic institution, or hold qualifications of comparable standard.

**MASTER OF LAWS IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW** – The one-academic year study Programme consists of education in international law, law of the sea, shipping law, marine environmental law and drafting of maritime legislation. Admission to the Programme is open to a limited number of students in any academic year. A university degree in law and proficiency in the English language are prerequisites to admission. Financial assistance may be available.

**ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW** – The Programme requires the candidate to earn a total of 25 credits by successfully following and completing credits on distinct subject areas either within the Public International Maritime Law strand, the Private International Maritime Law strand or the General International Maritime Law strand. Credits must be undertaken between one to five academic years from first enrolment.

## FOR INFORMATION ON ADMISSIONS, PLEASE CONTACT

*Mr. Ruben Maceda, Lecturer, Admissions Officer  
IMLI, P.O. Box 31, Msida MSD 1000, Malta  
Tel: (+356) 21 310 816 or (+356) 21 319 343; Fax: (+356) 21 343 092  
E-mail: [admissions@imli.org](mailto:admissions@imli.org)*

## THE NIPPON FOUNDATION

The Nippon Foundation, through its joint project with IMLI, known as the "Human Resources Development Project for the Advancement of a More Effective Legal Order for the Oceans", continues to support deserving government-nominated scholars. For the academic year 2009-2010 the following students were selected as scholars under the Project: Ms. Silivina Zhivkova Bakardzhieva (Bulgaria), Ms. Gina Maria Rodriguez Crespo (The Dominican Republic), Mr. Mebrahtu Belay Nega (Eritrea), Mr. Roba Megerssa Akawak (Ethiopia), Mrs. Joyce Adishetu Bawah Mogtari (Ghana), Ms. Archana Reddy (India), Mr. Stephen Kyandih Syuki (Kenya), Mrs. Jihadha Anees (Maldives), Ms. Peleni Emeline Talagi (Niue) and Mr. Ismael Barriero Cabrera (Uruguay).



*Ms. Makiko Tanaka (Project Coordinator, Maritime Affairs Department, The Nippon Foundation) presents the Sasakawa Prize for Best Performing Nippon Foundation Scholar to Ms. Kathy Rowena Buffong during the 2009 Graduation Ceremony.*

At the end of every academic year, the Sasakawa Prize for the Best Performing Nippon Foundation Scholar is awarded to the Nippon Scholar who has the best overall performance in the LL.M. Programme.

The 2009 Sasakawa Prize was awarded to Ms. Kathy Rowena Buffong (Dominica)

## LLOYD'S REGISTER

Lloyd's Register continues to support training at IMLI. With its aim to enhance safety and to approve assets and systems at sea, on land and in the air Lloyd's Register sets, upholds and applies high technical standards of design, manufacture, construction, maintenance, operation and performance across many sectors to the benefit of many businesses. This academic year the following students have been awarded scholarships by Lloyd's Register: Mr. Krishnan KrishnaKumar Thazhathupurakkal (India), Ms. Ernesta Rachlevičiūtė (Lithuania), and Mr. Kaluhat Vikum Priyantha de Abrew (Sri Lanka).

## INDIAN OCEAN COMMISSION

The Indian Ocean Commission under the GEF-WIO Marine Highway Development and Coastal and Marine Contamination Prevention Project intends to provide eight scholarships to students coming from The Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, South Africa, Seychelles, and The United Republic of Tanzania. The objective of the Project, which is part of the capacity building programme for the beneficiaries, is to reinforce capacities in the respective countries for the ratification of IMO conventions and more particularly to servicing these conventions in terms of honouring the obligations therein.

For the academic year 2009-2010 the following students were selected as scholars under the Project: Mr. Omar Ahmed Ali (Kenya), Ms. Annabelle Misha Odile Ombrasine (Mauritius), and Mrs. Susana Custodia Roque Tembe (Mozambique).

## IMLI ALUMNI

**Mr. François Laurent** (France, class 2007-2008) has been appointed Head of the French Navy Law of the Sea and Admiralty Law Office

**Mrs. Rita Uzoamaka Egbuche** (Nigeria, class 2007-2008) has been appointed Assistant Director, Legal Services, Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency

**Mrs. Karina Sergeevna Hansford** (The Russian Federation, class 2007-2008) has been appointed Director, ARK & Partners Ltd.

**Mr. Kosi Latu** (Samoa, class 1991-1992) has been appointed Deputy Director of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SREP)

**Mr. Choe Kun Song** (DPR Korea, class 2008-2009) has been appointed Counselor of the DPR of Korea Embassy to UK / Deputy Permanent Representative of the DPRK to IMO.

**Ms. Adenike Iyelolu** (Nigeria, class 2008-2009) has been appointed Senior Legal Officer at the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency.

## IMLI NEWS

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E-mail: [publications@imli.org](mailto:publications@imli.org)*

*The IMO International Law Institute was established under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization, a specialised agency of the United Nations.*



# IMLI STUDENTS ACADEMIC YEAR 2009 – 2010 LL.M. PROGRAMME



Eurico Ndando  
(ANGOLA)



Ramaz Akbarov  
(AZERBAIJAN)



Silvina Bakardzhieva  
(BULGARIA)



Carolina Riesco  
(CHILE)



Gina Rodriguez  
(THE DOMINICAN  
REPUBLIC)



Jo Man Gun  
(DPR KOREA)



Kim Chol Yong  
(DPR KOREA)



Mebrahtu Nega  
(ERITREA)



Solomon Weldu  
(ERITREA)



Roba Akawak  
(ETHIOPIA)



Joyce Mogtari  
(GHANA)



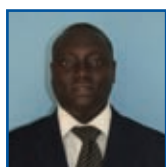
Archana Reddy  
(INDIA)



Krishnakumar  
Thazhathupurakal  
(INDIA)



Omar Ali  
(KENYA)



Kyandih Syuki  
(KENYA)



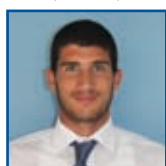
Isaac Jallah  
(LIBERIA)



Ernesta Rachlevičiūtė  
(LITHUANIA)



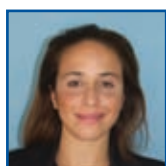
Jihadha Anees  
(MALDIVES)



Adrian Attard  
(MALTA)



Ann Marie Bugeja  
(MALTA)



Francesca Galea  
(MALTA)



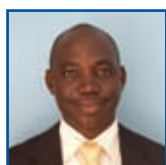
Annabelle Ombrasine  
(MAURITIUS)



Jorge Ucucho  
(MOZAMBIQUE)



Susana Tembe  
(MOZAMBIQUE)



Shamusideen  
Abubakre  
(NIGERIA)



Shu'aib Balance  
(NIGERIA)



Arit Nkpubre  
(NIGERIA)



Kenneth Nwaohiri  
(NIGERIA)



Peleni Talagi  
(NIUE)



Vikum de Abrew  
(SRI LANKA)



Merida Cable  
(ST.KITTS AND  
NEVIS)



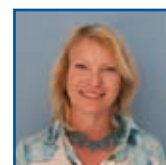
Muhammet Tokgoz  
(TURKEY)



Makhbule Kocak  
(TURKEY)

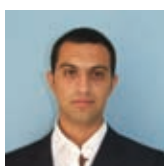


Ismael Barreiro  
(URUGUAY)



Sarah Anderson  
(THE UNITED  
STATES OF AMERICA)

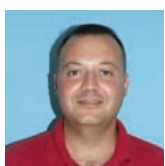
## ADVANCED DIPLOMA PROGRAMME



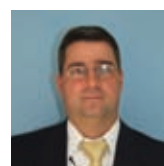
Elchin Ganjaliyev  
(AZERBAIJAN)



Correntin Ntang  
(CAMEROON)



Clinton O'Neill  
(MALTA)



Sean Schenk  
(THE UNITED  
STATES OF AMERICA)

*"Serving the Rule of International Maritime Law"*