

ADDRESS BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF IMO AND CHAIRMAN OF THE IMLI GOVERNING BOARD AT THE 22ND ANNUAL GRADUATION CEREMONY



H.E. Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos (Secretary-General of IMO and Chairman of the IMLI Governing Board), Professor David J. Attard (Director of IMLI), Professor Francis M.B. Reynolds Q.C. (Barrister / Professor Emeritus of University of Oxford), Dr. Patrick J.S. Griggs CBE (Former President of CMI), Members of the IMLI Faculty and the Class of 2010-2011

During the Institute's 22nd Graduation Ceremony, held on 7 May 2011 at the Malta Maritime Museum, H.E. Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos (Secretary-General of IMO and Chairman of the Governing Board of IMLI) delivered the Graduation Address. Hereunder follow excerpts of the said Address:

"[...] It is, once again, my great pleasure and privilege to join you at this very special ceremony, one which I know means a great deal to everybody here, not least to the students who are graduating today from this fine Institute.

For you, the graduation class, today marks the culmination of a period of study, hard work and, I trust, some enjoyment, on this beautiful island of Malta; but it also marks the beginning of a brand-new era in your lives, one in which you now are equipped with professional tools of a high standard to make a genuine difference in the service of your chosen career path of international maritime law.

[...] IMLI was created principally to ensure that appropriate maritime legal expertise would be available in the developing world – its success has, however, attracted students from developed countries as well and now it operates as a fully-fledged international education and training centre of excellence. Its graduates have a long history in the establishment of appropriate legal infrastructures at national level, encompassing not only up-to-date legislative regimes but also suitable machinery for the review, revision and modification of legislation to keep such regimes in line with changes in international maritime law and the latest developments in marine technology and shipping practices.

[...] With the students graduating today, the total number of IMLI alumni, from all programmes and courses, rises to an impressive 591; and this year, there are students from three countries new to the Institute, namely Antigua and Barbuda, the Cook Islands and Mongolia, adding to an already astonishing 120 States and territories that have benefited from sending students here – a number that compares well with the 169 members of IMO and the 192 members of the United Nations.

[...] For many years now, IMLI's graduates have formed a formidable and trusted body of lawyers, who collectively maintain, and uphold, the highest standards in their chosen profession. Many are now doing sterling work in their home countries; some scale the heights and, of those recently elevated to high posts, I would mention, in particular, Mr. Kofi Mbiah, an IMLI graduate from Ghana, who last year was elected Chairman of the IMO Legal Committee and Mr. Yakoba Italeli, a graduate from Tuvalu, who has

attained the ultimate accolade of being elected as his country's Head of State. So, who knows, perhaps we have another future world leader among today's graduates? Amen!

And it is not only the students of IMLI, who earn plaudits and accolades. As you heard from the Director, last December, the United Nations General Assembly, in a resolution entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea", acknowledged, for the third consecutive year, IMLI's contribution to the international community recognizing it as a fine centre of education and training of Government legal advisers and confirming its effective capacity-building role in the field of international law.

[...] Of course, none of this would be possible without the support of the many donors who support IMLI, whether financially or in kind. In this context, allow me to thank, in particular, the Nippon Foundation, the Lloyd's Register Educational Trust, the EU-Funded SAFEMED Project (implemented by REMPEC), the Indian Ocean Commission, the Swiss Government and, of course, the Government of Malta, for their continued kindness and generosity.

[...] My congratulations, and those of the whole of IMO, go to all those involved in making IMLI such a success, from the Director to the lowest ranking staff member – and, above all, to the graduands, who, through hard work, diligence, discipline and commitment, are about to become ambassadors for their countries and for the Institute itself.

Among those, who deserve a high praise for their contribution to the progress the Institute is continually making, I wish to also mention the Members of the Governing Board, who assist me and the Director in making the right decisions to the benefit of the common cause that brings us together.

I have no doubt that the graduation class of 2011 will join their distinguished predecessors in making a valuable contribution towards developing a global culture of maritime safety and a heightened awareness of environmental issues throughout the maritime community. The omens are good for them to live up to our expectations.

And I urge you all, dear graduands, never to forget that your work in the legal field really does matter; it really can help preserve the marine environment; it really can help save lives; and it really can serve the great industry, shipping, on which we all so much depend. And that, I think, is something you can be very proud of. I wish you all good luck; may life be kind to you and the winds be fair!"

IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL RECEIVES THE IMLI AWARD FOR MERITORIOUS CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT AND CODIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW



Professor David J. Attard (Director of IMLI) presenting the Award for Meritorious Contribution towards the Progressive Development and Codification of International Maritime Law to H.E. Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos (Secretary-General of IMO and Chairman of the IMLI Governing Board)

On 7 May 2011, IMLI conferred the Award for Meritorious Contribution towards the Progressive Development and Codification of International Maritime Law upon H.E. Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos (Secretary-General of IMO and Chairman of the Governing Board of IMLI). The Award was bestowed on Mr. Mitropoulos in recognition of his significant contribution to the international maritime community during his tenure as Secretary-General of IMO and his endless efforts, in his capacity as the Chairman of the IMLI Governing Board, to ensure that the Institute rises to the fore in the capacity-building process that complements the work of IMO.

In conferring the Award, IMLI acknowledges that Mr. Mitropoulos has been an inspiring, dedicated and outstanding beacon of light to the international maritime community during his tenure as Secretary-General of IMO. The Organization has under his stewardship traversed historic milestones, in the process codifying a plethora of international maritime rules into landmark conventions, recommendations and guidelines concerning the whole realm of international maritime law. He has thus, contributed directly and in a meaningful manner towards the progressive development and codification of international maritime law.

In his acceptance speech, Mr. Mitropoulos said that “[...] It gives me great pleasure to accept this prestigious Award, which I do with a mixture of pride and humility on behalf of all whose hard work and dedication have enabled me to do my job as both the IMO Secretary-General and Chairman of the IMLI Governing Board, to the benefit of the objectives the Organization and Institute respectively strive to achieve. [...] What we have achieved so far has been very much the result of a team effort, and that will remain the case as my successors build on, and extend, that which is currently in place. Thank you – this means a great deal.”

CMI FORMER PRESIDENT RECEIVES THE TITLE OF DOCTOR OF INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW HONORIS CAUSA



H.E. Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos (Secretary-General of IMO and Chairman of the IMLI Governing Board) presenting the Degree of Doctor of International Maritime Law Honoris Causa to Dr. Patrick J.S. Griggs CBE (Former President of CMI)

During IMLI's Graduation Ceremony held on 7 May 2011, the Degree of Doctor of International Maritime Law *Honoris Causa* was conferred upon Dr. Patrick J.S. Griggs CBE (Former President of CMI) in recognition of his life-long service to the harmonization, progressive development and codification of international maritime law. IMLI acknowledges that Dr. Griggs has been instrumental in the work of the Institute through his constant contribution to the IMLI Governing Board and the IMLI Academic Committee of which he has been a member for many years. He has also been actively involved in the Institute's academic work by annually delivering lectures on various topics relating to port State control, shipping disasters, liability and compensation conventions adopted by the IMO, and limitation of liability for maritime claims. Dr. Griggs has acted as a supervisor in the Institute's Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) programme, thus contributing to the continued development of the Institute as a centre of academic excellence for the teaching of international maritime law.

Professor Francis M.B. Reynolds Q.C. (Barrister / Professor Emeritus of University of Oxford) who delivered the oration on the occasion noted that “[...] Patrick Griggs has been a great supporter of and a friend to IMLI for many years. [...] The International Maritime Law Institute acknowledges with admiration the regular and valuable help which it has received over many years from someone who was and remains, as his firm Ince & Co said on his retirement, a “leading [to which I add the words “and distinguished”] player” in the world of international maritime law and commerce; and it is immensely grateful for the friendship and support which, personally and through the CMI, Patrick Griggs has given to its work.”

IMO DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION DIVISION DELIVERS THE INAUGURAL LECTURE AT IMLI



Mr. Jianxin Zhu (Director of the IMO Technical Co-operation Division) and Professor David J. Attard (Director of IMLI) with the Class of 2011 – 2012

Mr. Jianxin Zhu (Director of the IMO Technical Co-operation Division) delivered the official inaugural lecture of IMLI's 23rd annual LL.M. programme on 26 September 2011. In his lecture, entitled ‘Challenges Faced by IMO in the Development and Delivery of Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme (ITCP)’, Mr. Zhu analyzed in depth the rationale for technical co-operation considering that many countries are in different stages of development and, due to various reasons, they may be unable to fully implement IMO instruments. The mandate of the Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme, is to assist such countries in the implementation process, thereby ensuring a uniform and effective implementation of the numerous instruments adopted by the Organization.

When asked about his views on IMLI and its work, Mr. Zhu noted that he was very happy to have been invited to address the students of the Class of 2011 – 2012 and talk to them about IMO and, in particular, the role of the Organization in capacity building. In his opinion, it is unique that IMO has set up the Institute that, to date, has trained nearly 600 lawyers from 123 States. In his opinion, IMLI graduates are a valuable asset to IMO especially in the role they are playing in the capacity-building process. He hopes that his visit to the Institute opens a new chapter between the IMO and IMLI in the area of capacity building for developing countries.

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

DONORS 2011 – 2012

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

The IMO continues to support IMLI's funding requirements by annually providing scholarships which are intended for deserving government-nominated candidates who wish to pursue post-graduate studies in international maritime law at the Institute. This academic year the IMO provided eight full scholarships which were awarded to: Mr. Nicolas Joaquin Vasquez Schaer (Bolivia), Ms. Nabeela Naeema Wahab (Ghana), Ms. Tanya K. Lambert (Grenada), Ms. Rike Wijayanti Octaviana (Indonesia), Mr. Duane Andrew Roy Allen (Jamaica), Ms. Nancy Gatwiri Kairaria (Kenya), Ms. Martha Amelia Sesay (Sierra Leone) and Mr. Ryan Mitchell Sam Lin Fung A Loi (Suriname).

At the end of every academic year, the IMO Secretary-General's Prize is awarded to the student who writes the best dissertation. The 2011 IMO Secretary-General's Prize for Best Dissertation was awarded to Ms. Nikita Scicluna (Malta).



(From left to right) Mr. Duane Allen (Jamaica), Ms. Nancy Kairaria (Kenya), Ms. Nabeela Wahab (Ghana), Ms. Tanya Lambert (Grenada), Mr. Joaquin Vasquez (Bolivia), Ms. Rike Octaviana (Indonesia), Ms. Martha Sesay (Sierra Leone) and Mr. Ryan Fung A Loi (Suriname), the IMO Scholars for the academic year 2011-2012

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 beneficiary countries under the SAFEMED project were Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey. Lawyers from five of these countries benefited from the ten scholarships provided by the project.

Under the follow up project "SAFEMED II" which commenced in 2009, in addition to five scholarships to be granted during the three year implementation period, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro were also granted the status of beneficiary countries. For the academic year 2011-2012, Ms. Klara Qerraxhia (Albania), Mr. Lakhdar Chouchane (Algeria) and Mr. Atilla Piralioğlu (Turkey) were selected as scholars 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. The 2011 REMPEC Marine Environment Law Prize was awarded to Ms. Paula Tefana Manarangi (the Cook Islands).



(From left to right) Mr. Lakhdar Chouchane (Algeria), Ms. Klara Qerraxhia (Albania) and Mr. Atilla Piralioğlu (Turkey), the SAFEMED Scholars for the academic year 2011-2012

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 2011-2012 the following ten students were selected as scholars under the Project: Mr. Walter Jacinto Antonio (Angola), Mr. Nelson Ricardo Gonzalez Corredor (Colombia), Ms. Li Zhen (China), Ms. Estefania Alejandra Proaño Jalil (Ecuador), Ms. Victorina Hesti Dewayani (Indonesia), Mr. Muhammad Taufan (Indonesia), Ms. Gaukhar Nurmakhanova (Kazakhstan), Mr. Nya S. Gbaintor (Liberia), Mr. Mohamed Iyas (Maldives) and Mr. Ronald Dadvias Pancipane (the Philippines).

At the end of every academic year, the Sasakawa Prize for the Best Performing Nippon Foundation Scholar is awarded to the Nippon Foundation Scholar who has the best overall performance in the LL.M. programme. The 2011 Sasakawa Prize for the Best Performing Nippon Foundation Scholar was awarded to Mr. Stephen Ousa Okello (Kenya).



(From left to right) Mr. Ronald Pancipane (the Philippines), Mr. Mohamed Iyas (Maldives), Mr. Walter Antonio (Angola), Ms. Gaukhar Nurmakhanova (Kazakhstan), Ms. Estefania Proaño (Ecuador), Ms. Hesti Dewayani (Indonesia), Ms. Li Zhen (China), Mr. Ricardo Gonzalez (Colombia), Mr. Muhammad Taufan (Indonesia) and Mr. Nya Gbaintor (Liberia), the Nippon Foundation Scholars for the academic year 2011-2012

THE LLOYD'S REGISTER EDUCATIONAL TRUST

The Lloyd's Register Educational Trust (the LRET) continues to support training at IMLI. The LRET was established in 2004 by the Lloyd's Register Group to fund advances in transportation, science, engineering and technology education, training and research worldwide for the benefit of all. The LRET supports the work of IMLI by providing annually 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 the following students have been selected as the LRET scholars: Mrs. Alexandra Deirdre Maycock (the Bahamas), Ms. Ramat Jaraie Angelica Jalloh (Sierra Leone) and Mr. Adnan Haj Omar (Syria).



(From left to right) Ms. Ramat Jalloh (Sierra Leone), Mr. Adnan Haj Omar (Syria) and Mrs. Deirdre Maycock (the Bahamas), the Lloyd's Register Educational Trust Scholars for the academic year 2011-2012

IMLI STUDENTS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2011-2012

ADVANCED DIPLOMA PROGRAMME



Akanksha Choubey
(INDIA)



Michael Dutra
(ITALY)



Marvin Mangion
(MALTA)



Pedro Ferreira
(PORTUGAL)

IMLI STUDENTS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2011 – 2012

LL.M. PROGRAMME



Klara Qerraxhia
(ALBANIA)



Lakhdar Chouchane
(ALGERIA)



Walter Antonio
(ANGOLA)



Deirdre Maycock
(THE BAHAMAS)



Joaquin Vasquez
(BOLIVIA)



Ricardo Gonzalez
(COLOMBIA)



Li Zhen
(CHINA)



Estefania Proaño
(ECUADOR)



Daniel Klöttschen
(GERMANY)



Veronica Adigbo
(GHANA)



Naa Ayeley A-Aryee
(GHANA)



Nabeela Wahab
(GHANA)



Tanya Lambert
(GRENADA)



Hesti Dewayani
(INDONESIA)



Rike Octaviana
(INDONESIA)



Muhammad Taufan
(INDONESIA)



Ali Behnezhad
(IRAN)



Duane Allen
(JAMAICA)



Gaukhar Nurmakhanova
(KAZAKHSTAN)



Nancy Kairaria
(KENYA)



Nya Gbaintor
(LIBERIA)



Aleksey Karchiomov
(LITHUANIA)



Mohamed Iyas
(MALDIVES)



Jan Rossi
(MALTA)



Charlotte Spiteri
(MALTA)



Alberto Martinez
(MEXICO)



Uwe Akan
(NIGERIA)



Obiora Anyikwa
(NIGERIA)



Abimbola Laoye
(NIGERIA)



Ayuba Maikano
(NIGERIA)



Ronald Pancipane
(THE PHILIPPINES)



Ramat Jalloh
(SIERRA LEONE)



Martha Sesay
(SIERRA LEONE)



Ryan Fung A Loi
(SURINAME)



Adnan Haj Omar
(SYRIA)



Atilla Piralioglu
(TURKEY)



Olena Ptashenchuk
(UKRAINE)



Herbert Anyiam
(THE UNITED KINGDOM)

"Serving the Rule of International Maritime Law"