

SWISS MARITIME NAVIGATION OFFICE HEAD VISITS IMLI

The Institute welcomed Dr. Reto Dürler (Head of the Swiss Maritime Navigation Office) on 12 February 2013. During his visit, Dr. Dürler, who is also a member of the IMLI Governing Board, delivered a lecture on ‘The New SUA Protocols: Developments, Contents and Scope’.



Dr. Reto Dürler (Head of the Swiss Maritime Navigation Office) with Professor David Attard (Director of IMLI) and the Class of 2012/2013

Dr. Dürler began his lecture by discussing the nexus between piracy and terrorism, especially in the context of today’s developments in various sea areas of the world. He dealt in detail with the contents and scope of the new 2005 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (SUA Convention 2005), and the Protocol for the Suppression of

Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf (SUA Protocol 2005) which were adopted at IMO in London in October 2005. He placed special emphasis on the new offences and the boarding provisions set out therein.

Dr. Dürler concluded his lecture by expressing the view that, since the definition of offences found in the SUA Conventions is broad in nature, the said treaties could also be used to counter the growing menace of piracy today.

On the occasion of his visit, the first representative of Oman to IMLI placed the Institute's badge on the IMLI map.



Dr. Reto Dürler and Professor David Attard with Mr. Faisal Al-Farsi, the first representative of Oman to IMLI

Dr. Dürler studied Law, Contemporary History and Languages at the Universities of Basel and Geneva. In 1988 he passed the federal examination to the diplomatic service of his country. Subsequently he served in Pretoria, South Africa, Bonn, Germany and in various functions at the

Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bern. Between 2000 and 2002 Dr. Dürler was Head of the Division of International Affairs in the Federal Ministry of Health of Switzerland.

Dr. Dürler has been the Head of the Swiss Maritime Navigation Office since 2005. In 2009, the Swiss Government appointed him Ambassador and Head of the Swiss Delegation to the Central Commission of the Navigation on the Rhine which is the oldest international organization in Europe based on the so called Mannheim Convention which came into force in 1868. The Commission has its seat in Strasbourg, France. It stipulates the free navigation on the Rhine River for all its members (Switzerland, Germany, France, Netherlands and Belgium).

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