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INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA JUDGE LECTURES AT IMLI

Judge Anthony Lucky (Judge of the International Tribunal for Law of the Sea (ITLOS)) visited the Institute on 21 February 2013 and delivered a lecture on “The Development of the Law of the Sea: Trinidad and Tobago’s Unique Contribution.”

As an introductory note, Judge Lucky stated that the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago is an archipelagic state in the southern Caribbean, lying just off the coast of northeastern Venezuela and south of Grenada in the Lesser Antilles. It shares maritime boundaries with other nations including Barbados to the northeast, Grenada to the northwest, Guyana to the southeast, and Venezuela to the south and west.



Judge and Mrs. Anthony Lucky with the IMLI Class of 2012/2013

After his introduction, Judge Lucky examined in detail the Treaty signed in 1942 between the United Kingdom (at the time Trinidad and Tobago was a protectorate of the United Kingdom) and Venezuela relating to the Submarine Areas of the Gulf of Paria. The Gulf of Paria is a 7,800 km² (3,000 square miles) shallow inland sea between the islands of Trinidad and Tobago and the east coast of Venezuela. Judge Lucky explained that, as per the treaty, the sea bed beyond the territorial waters of the Gulf was divided into two sectors. In one sector the United Kingdom agreed not to assert any claim to the sovereignty or control and to recognize any rights to sovereignty or control lawfully acquired by Venezuela, while Venezuela gave a corresponding undertaking in respect of the other sector. Judge Lucky noted that the importance of the Gulf of Paria Treaty consists in succeeding in the delimitation of the continental shelf, before the legal concept of the continental shelf itself was established.

He continued his presentation by further discussing the effects of the Truman Proclamation of 1945, the 1958 Geneva Convention on the Continental Shelf and the relevant provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). He concluded his presentation by discussing the 1990 Delimitation Treaty between Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela and its implications.

On the occasion of Judge Lucky's visit, the first representative of Belize to IMLI placed the Institute's badge on the IMLI map.



Judge Anthony Lucky and Mr. Llewelyn Usher, the first representative of Belize to IMLI placing the Institute's badge on the IMLI map

Judge Anthony Lucky is a Member of the Tribunal since 2 September 2003. He was elected as the President of the Chamber for Marine Environment Disputes for the period 2005 to 2008, and holds the same position since 5 October 2011.

He graduated from the Council of Legal Education, Gray's Inn, London in 1961 and obtained, in the same year, a Post Final Practical Training Certificate. He received a Diploma in International Relations, Institute of International Relations, University of the West Indies (1972-1973) and a Masters' degree in International Relations, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of the West Indies (1984).

Between 1987 and 2003, Judge Lucky served as a Judge of the Supreme Court of Trinidad and Tobago and as a Justice of Appeal in the Court of Appeal of Trinidad and Tobago for the period 2000 to 2003. In 2010 he was elected as Ombudsman for the Caribbean Association Council for Engineering and Technology (CACET).

Judge Lucky is a Member of the Board of Directors, Academy of Tertiary Studies, Trinidad and Tobago and Chairman since 2003, and a Member of the Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association. He has delivered numerous lectures and written extensively on the field of international law and the law of the sea.

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