

IMLI *e*-News

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IMLI GRADUATE APPOINTED MEMBER OF THE IMLI GOVERNING BOARD

The IMO Secretary-General, Mr. Koji Sekimizu has recently invited Dr. Emmanuel Kofi Mbiah (Chairman of the IMO Legal Committee), to serve as a Member of the IMLI Governing Board. In his letter to Dr. Mbiah, Mr. Sekimizu stated that Dr. Mbiah's personal participation will help to strengthen the Board's representation.



Dr. Emmanuel Kofi Mbia (Chairman of the IMO Legal Committee)

Upon receiving the invitation, Dr. Mbiah expressed his deepest gratitude to Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) and the Institute by stating that he is grateful for all the support and encouragement he has received. He stated further that this is yet another personal achievement for him.

Dr. Kofi Mbiah graduated from the University of Ghana, Legon, in 1980 with a Bachelor of Laws degree,(LL.B) and in 1982 he became a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Ghana after obtaining his Barrister at Law certificate (B.L.), from the Ghana School of Law in 1982.

Dr. Mbiah holds a Master's Degree in Marine Management, (M.M.M.) from Dalhousie University, Canada and a Master of Laws (LL.M.) Degree from IMLI, where he graduated with distinction and was the recipient of the IMO Secretary General's Prize for Best Overall Performance. In 2005, Dr. Mbiah obtained another Master's Degree in Business Administration (MBA) from the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration. He obtained his Ph.D. Degree in Maritime Administration from the World Maritime University, Sweden in 2011.

He started his working career at Ghana Shippers Authority in 1982 as an Assistant Legal Officer and rose through the ranks to become the Chief Executive Officer in 1999, a position he has held to date.

Dr Mbiah was Vice-Chairman of the IMO Legal Committee for 11 years until his election in 2010 as Chairman of the Committee; a position he still holds. Apart from participating in the development of various IMO instruments and signing them on behalf of his country, Dr. Mbiah has also contributed to the work of the IMO.

He was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee for the Protocol to the Athens Convention, 2002, Chairman of the Drafting Committee to the Protocol on the International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea 2010, and one of the Vice-Presidents of the Diplomatic Conference for the adoption of the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007. Dr. Mbiah was elected the Chairman of Committee One, dealing with Administrative, Financial, Legal, and Technical Cooperation matters at the 29th Session of the General Assembly of the IMO which took place at the IMO Headquarters from 23rd November to 2 December 2015. He has also served on various sub committees and Working Groups in furtherance of the work of the IMO.

Dr. Mbiah has represented Ghana at both UNCTAD and UNCITRAL Conferences. He was also leader of Ghana's delegation to the UNCITRAL sessions for the development of the Rotterdam Rules.

From 2006, Dr. Mbiah has been at various times a visiting professor at the World Maritime and Lund Universities in Malmo, Sweden. He has also presented papers at the Maritime Law Seminars for Judges of the Superior Courts of Ghana, Nigeria and Kenya. Dr. Mbiah has also participated in meetings of the Comité Maritime Internationale (CMI) and delivered papers at some of its conferences.

He has consulted variously for local and international bodies including the Regional Maritime University in Ghana and the World Bank and has contributed articles and papers to various publications.

Dr. Mbiah's steadfast contribution to the development of the maritime industry has been recognised through a number of awards including, The IMLI Graduate International Achievement Award (2013), the African Maritime and Energy Evergreen Award (2014), the IMANI Top Five Most Inspirational Public Service Leaders in Ghana, 2014 and the Africa Maritime Energy CEO of the Year 2015 award.

The Institute is proud of his achievements and congratulates him for this appointment.

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