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The IMO International Maritime Law Institute Official Electronic Newsletter (Vol. 13, Issue No. 19) 22 January, 2016

## JAPANESE DIPLOMAT VISITS IMLI

On Thursday 14 January, Mr. Ryo Kuroishi, First Secretary of the Embassy of Japan in Italy, paid an official visit to the Institute.

Mr. Kuroishi was welcomed by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI), who expressed his pleasure at the visit. Professor Attard stated that IMLI and Japan have enjoyed very strong links, especially through the fruitful cooperation which it has developed with The Nippon Foundation which was initiated by Mr. M. Unno 12 years ago. The Director recalled that through the cooperation, the Institute has provided academic and technical expertise whilst The Nippon Foundation has generously provided financial contribution which enables 10 deserving candidates to pursue their studies in international maritime law at the Institute every year.

The Director indicated that the Institute is now establishing IMLI- Nippon Foundation Alumni Global Network to encourage global collaboration between IMLI, The Nippon Foundation and IMLI-Nippon Foundation Alumni.

Professor Attard declared further that the Institute is proud of the trust given by the Foundation which has extended its support to the work of IMLI by establishing two teaching positions within the Institute.

Acknowledging the enormous and continual support of the Nippon Foundation, IMLI was honoured with the recent appointment of Mr. Masamichi Hasebe (Senior Legal Counsel, Japan Association of Maritime Safety) as a Member of the IMLI Governing Board. He also recalled that throughout the years many eminent Japanese scholars and practitioners have visited the Institute and shared their knowledge with the IMLI students.



Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) and Mr. Ryo Kuroishi (First Secretary, Embassy of Japan in Italy)

Mr. Kuroishi expressed his pleasure at being at the Institute and having the opportunity to meet its Director and Academic Staff. He thanked Professor Attard for his hospitality and looked forward to future collaboration between IMLI and Japanese Scholars through visiting lectureship at the Institute.

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