

The IMO International Maritime Law Institute Official Electronic Newsletter (Vol. 13, Issue No.60) 26 August, 2016

## TONGMYONG UNIVERSITY- IMLI MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

On Tuesday 16 August, 2016 the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Tongmyong University (TU) based in Bosan, the Republic of Korea. Present at the signing were several distinguished personalities including Mr. Kitack Lim (Secretary-General, IMO), the Honourable Joe Mizzi (Minister for Transport, Malta), Ambassador Lino Vassallo (Permanent Representative of Malta to IMO), Mr. Jonathan Pace (Head, Programme Management and Maritime Transport Policy, Technical Cooperation Division), and Dr. Michaela Muscat (Maritime Attache, Transport Malta to IMO).

TU was represented by its President, Dr. Oh Keo-Don, whilst IMLI was represented by its Director, Professor David Attard.



L-R- Ambassador Lino Vassallo (Permanent Representative of Malta to IMO), Mr. Kitack Lim (Secretary-General, IMO), Dr. Oh Keo-Don (President, Tongmyong University, the Republic of Korea), Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI), Honourable Joe Mizzi (Minister for Transport, Malta), and Professor Dr. Norman Martinez Gutiérrez (Associate Professor, IMLI) during the signing of the MoU

The purpose of the MoU is to promote and enhance educational opportunities for students as well as the exchange of teaching and research personnel for the benefit of both parties, based on cross-cultural understanding and mutual respect. Both IMLI and TU hope to enable linkages in the fields of maritime affairs, multimodal and intermodal transport, international logistics and other related fields.

In his statement upon signing the MoU, Dr. Oh thanked Professor Attard for the validation of the agreement between IMLI and his University. He thanked Secretary-General Lim for creating the opportunity for such a rewarding cooperation. Dr. Oh also conveyed his heartfelt thanks also to Minister Mizzi, and Ambassador Vassallo.



Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) and Dr. Oh Keo-Don (President, Tongmyong University, the Republic of Korea

He noted that TU is the leading University in the area of shipping in Asia, therefore, the signing of the MoU is a unique opportunity to cooperate with IMLI, which is also one of the top most acclaimed maritime institutions in the world. Dr. Oh stated further that it is his hope that the cooperation would be of extreme success to the maritime industry.

In an interview with the editor, Dr. Oh commented that the Korean Port being the 5<sup>th</sup> largest port in the world, should see a lot more improvement in international maritime law. To this end therefore, he continued, TU would use this cooperation agreement as an opportunity to enhance capacity building of the Port by the training and exchange of expertise.

The Secretary-General in his statement made to the editor reiterated the hopes of Dr. Oh, stating that he is expecting enhanced cooperation between IMLI and TU. Through this cooperation, Secretary-General Lim stated further, he hopes there will indeed be exchange of academics, scholars and proper discussion for sound and sustainable development in the maritime industry.

He ended by stating that through this cooperation, he is expecting to see the proper application of international maritime law.

Professor Attard, in his concluding remarks stated that he is pleased to see the MoU with TU as a stepping stone to future cooperation with one of the leading shipping universities in the world. He noted that logistics is very important in maritime law and also noted with pride, IMLI's newly established joint Master of Science programme in International Maritime Law and Logistics with the Kühne Logistics University (KLU) in Germany. Professor Attard concluded by thanking the Secretary-General, Dr. Oh and all the distinguished guests who had come to grace the occasion.



Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI), presenting a gift to Dr. and Mrs. Oh Keo-Don (President, Tongmyong University, the Republic of Korea)

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