IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSES ASSEMBLY

Mr. Kitack Lim (the Secretary-General, IMO) addressed the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) at its 30th Session on 4 December 2017 on the activities of the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI).

The President of the Assembly, Mr. Federico Trillo-Figueroa y Martínez-Conde, invited the Secretary-General to deliver his address on the operation and activities of the Institute for the academic year 2016-2017.

The Secretary-General expressed his appreciation to all the donors who have continued to support the work of IMLI. While recognizing that The Nippon Foundation is the Institute’s largest financial donor, he seized the opportunity to extend his appreciation to the Lloyd's Register Foundation, the International Transport Workers' Federation Seafarers’ Trust, the Government of Switzerland, Transport Malta and the Government of Malta, the Republic of Korea, the Ministry of Transport and the Government of Malaysia, the Comité Maritime International Charitable Trust, the Public Transport Authority of Saudi Arabia, and the Institute Director, Professor Attard.
The Secretary-General also thanked all governments, international organizations, foundations and individuals whose financial contributions, fellowships or funding for academic posts have provided sufficient income to cover the Institute's budget for the biennium.

The Secretary-General, however, noted that, besides the financial support by the donors, the Institute is still some way off achieving a sound long-term financial self-sustainability. He, therefore urged ‘Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the industry to respond positively to Resolution A.934 (22) on Sustainable financial support for the IMO International Maritime Law Institute, to ensure that IMLI continues to benefit the global maritime community through its effective capacity-building role in the field of international maritime law.’

The Secretary-General concluded his address by congratulating Professor Attard for his able stewardship.

At the conclusion of the Session, the Assembly:

1. Noted the information contained in the document A30/17(b), concerning the Report on the IMO International Maritime Law Institute;

2. Expressed its appreciation to the Government of Malta, and to all other donors to IMLI's budget and providers of fellowships;

3. Urged all Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and industry to continue to support the Institute either by direct contributions to its operating budget, scholarship financing or through any other assistance pursuant to Resolution A.934(22); and

4. Urged the Member States to take action so as to recognize, under their national laws, the degrees conferred by the Institute and, to that end, inform the Organization.

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