

## IMLI DIRECTOR ADDRESSES THE IMO LEGAL COMMITTEE

Professor David Attard (Director of IMLI) addressed the IMO Legal Committee at its 105<sup>th</sup> Session at the IMO Headquarters, London on 24 April 2018. Professor Attard was invited by the Chairman of the Legal Committee, Mr. Volker Schofisch, to address the IMO Legal Committee with respect to the Institute's activities in the academic years 2016-2017 and 2017-2018.



*Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) and Mr. F.J. Kenney (Director, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division) with IMLI graduates representing their States at the 105th Session of the IMO Legal Committee (from L-R) Mr. Ali Abbas Khayoon Al-Naseri (Maritime Attache, Embassy of the Republic of Iraq, London), Mlle. Mireille d'Arc Rajaonarison (Juriste Maritime, APMF), Mr. Abebe Tefera Tebeje (Director, Policy Research and Legal Affairs, Ethiopian Maritime Affairs Authority), Dr. Vija Putane (Senior Legal Adviser, Maritime Administration of Latvia), Ms. Paula Manarangi (Quality Manager, Legal Adviser, Maritime Cook Islands), Subprefecto Paula Grillo (Abogada, Cuerpo Profesional- Direccion de Policia de Seguridad de la Navegacion (DPSN)), Ms. Zhen Li (Associate Researcher, Dalian Maritime University), Ms. Martha Amelia Yeanoh Sesay (Legal Officer, Legal Department, Sierra Leone Maritime Administration), Mtro. Stefan Brajic (Jefe de Departamento, Unidad de Capitanias de Puerto y Asuntos Maritimos Secretaria de Marina), Sr. Alberto Jose Martinez Salinas (Representante Alterno ante la OMI, Secretaria de Comunicaciones y Transportes, Embajada de Mexico en el Reino Unido), Mr. Ivane Abashidze (Acting Deputy Director; Head, Legal and International Relations Department, LEPL, Maritime Transport Agency of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia), Miss Georgina Adia Nyadia (Senior Legal Officer, Ghana Maritime Authority), Tte. Nav. SJN. LD, Liliana Diaz Medina, (Jefe del Departamento de Gestion Nacional, Unidad de Capitanias de Puertos y Asuntos Maritimos, Secretaria de Marina), Mrs. Aishatu A. Jidda (Head, LSU, Nigerian*

*Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA)), Mrs. Azara A. Prempeh (Minister, Alternate Permanent Representative of Ghana to IMO, Ghana High Commission, London), Mr. Abdulmumuni Dirisu (Assistant Director, Legal, Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA)), Mr. Md. Alamgir Khan, (Director, Department of Shipping, Ministry of Shipping), H.E. Gilberto Asuque (Deputy Chief of Mission, Permanent Representative of the Philippines to IMO, Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines, London), Mrs. Enemo Amaechi (Assistant Director, Legal, APR-IMO Office, Nigeria High Commission, London), Mrs. D. Lost-Sieminska (Deputy Director/Head, Legal Affairs Office, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division), and Atty. Virgilio Calag (Division Chief, Prosecution Division, Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA))*

In presenting the report, the Director informed the Committee that at the end of the Academic Year 2016-2017, 38 Graduates received their Master's degree from IMLI. These graduates became part of an impressive network which now stands at 741 IMLI Graduates from a 135 States. He further noted that training at IMLI continues to attract widespread support which is reflected for the tenth consecutive time in the resolution of the UN General Assembly adopted on 5 December 2017 wherein the General Assembly recognizes the importance of IMLI's work as a centre of training in maritime law and confirms its effective capacity-building role.

Professor Attard invited the Committee to note that, in September 2017, IMLI launched a new specialized post-graduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) in International Maritime Law and Ocean Policy in cooperation with WMU. It is expected that graduates of this unique programme will play an important role in developing national ocean governance policies that reflect the latest international initiatives, rules and regulations.

The Committee's attention was further drawn to the three volume "IMLI Treatise on Global Ocean Governance" which has been completed by IMLI as a result of the IMLI Nippon Foundation Project on Global Ocean Governance. The IMLI Treatise is designed to assess the current state of ocean governance to ensure that proposals on the same are based on reliable information. To guarantee that the Treatise reflects the latest state of global ocean governance, 58 leading experts were chosen to contribute to the Treatise on the basis of their eminence and expertise. Volume I deals with "The United Nations (UN) and Global Ocean Governance" and has Professor David Ong as Academic Coordinator and Professor Dino Kritsiotis as Editor. Volume II then focuses on "The UN Specialized Agencies and Global Ocean Governance" and has Professor Malgosia Fitzmaurice as Academic Coordinator and Dr. Alexandros X.M. Ntovas as Editor. Volume III, in turn, is entitled "IMO and Global Ocean Governance" and has Dr. Rosalie P. Balkin as Academic Coordinator and Professor Donald Greig as Editor. This work will be published by Oxford University Press and will complement the three Volume IMLI Manual on International Maritime Law.

Professor Attard was also pleased to report that the book series "IMLI Studies in International Maritime Law" published by Routledge simultaneously in London and New York continues to attract attention in the maritime legal community. The latest addition is entitled "Shipbreaking

in Developing Countries: A Requiem for Environmental Justice from the Perspective of Bangladesh" by Dr. Md Saiful Karim (Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Law, Queensland University of Technology (QUT)).

In conclusion, Professor Attard recalled that the Assembly, during its twenty-fifth session, adopted resolution A.1008(25), which, inter alia, affirmed that IMLI's research activities contribute positively to the furtherance of the objectives and goals of the Organization and its Member States, and encouraged Member States, the IMO organs, international organizations and all other stakeholders of the global maritime community to take into account, in the performance of their activities, the findings and recommendations of the research work undertaken by IMLI. Pursuant to this, the Secretariat is making available, in document LEG 105/INF.3, the dissertation by Lt. Liliana Diaz Medina, from Mexico, entitled "The Effectiveness of Current International Ship-Boarding Provisions to Combat Crime at Sea", which was awarded the IMO Secretary General's Prize for Best Dissertation for the academic year 2016-2017.



*Tte. Nav. SJN. LD, Liliana Diaz Medina, (Jefe del Departamento de Gestion Nacional, Unidad de Capitanias de Puertos y Asuntos Maritimos, Secretaria de Marina)*

After Professor Attard's intervention, Mr. Frederick Kenney (Director, IMO Division of Legal Affairs and External Relations) referred to Lt. Liliana Diaz Medina's prize. In a moving moment, she rose to acknowledge the Committee Members' appreciation for her academic success. A number of delegates spoke in support of IMLI's work whose interventions will be recorded in subsequent E-news.

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