

FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION DIVISION OF IMO LECTURES AT IMLI

Mrs. Monica Mbanefo (Former Director of Technical Cooperation, IMO) visited the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) on 20 April 2018 and delivered a lecture on “Economic Development: The Role of IMLP” to the IMLI Class of 2017-2018.



Mrs. Monica Mbanefo (Former Director of Technical Cooperation, IMO) with the IMLI Class of 2017-2018

In her lecture, Mrs. Mbanefo began with a discussion of the general topic of the unique contribution of the shipping industry to economic development. She then emphasised that the effective implementation of IMO instruments is a must, but forewarned the class that it is not without its obstacles. She then gave an illustration to the class on the rationale behind her stance of maritime legislation being the cornerstone for effective implementation of IMO instruments.

She concluded by highlighting IMLI graduates’ crucial role in the formulation of the aforementioned legislation and hence, effective implementation of IMO instruments.

Mrs. Monica Mbanefo is a lawyer of over forty five (45) years’ experience, thirty six (36) of which have been in the transport and maritime industry where she has been at the hub in the formulation

of policies at national, inter-governmental, and international levels. She led many delegations to IMO and UNCTAD. An experienced United Nations diplomat, Mrs Mbanefo was Nigerian delegate to IMO meetings of the Council, Assembly and Legal Committee from 1984 to 1990. From 1991 to 2010, Mrs. Mbanefo headed successively three of the six departments of IMO. Her many years in Government and at IMO have ensured an international outlook with ability to negotiate at the highest levels and work with people of varying political, cultural and business affiliation.

Mrs. Mbanefo graduated from the University of Ife, Nigeria, with an Honours Degree in Law (LLB Hons). She was called to the Bar in 1973 as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Nigeria. Additionally, she attended the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, University of Lagos, Nigeria, where she specialised in International Contract Negotiation and Arbitration Clauses in Contracts.

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