

IMLI **e-News**

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MALTA PRIME MINISTER ADDRESSES SYMPOSIUM IN JAPAN AND PRAISES NIPPON FOUNDATION FOR ASSISTANCE TO IMLI

His Excellency Joseph Muscat (the Prime Minister of Malta) delivered a keynote address entitled, ‘Protecting our Oceans for Present and Future Generations’, during an international symposium organised by The Nippon Foundation in Tokyo, Japan on 30 July 2018.



His Excellency Dr. Joseph Muscat (Prime Minister, Malta) and His Excellency Mr. Shinzo Abe (Prime Minister, Japan)

In his address, Dr. Muscat unveiled Malta’s proposal entitled ‘Safeguarding Ocean Space for Present and Future Generations’ for inclusion in the agenda of the UN General Assembly for its

forthcoming session. In expressing hope that his Government's initiative will receive widespread support to ensure its implementation in the interest of present and future generations, Dr. Muscat affirmed that his proposal echoes the proposal of Dr Yohei Sasakawa (Chairman, The Nippon Foundation) for the establishment of an Intergovernmental Panel for Comprehensive Ocean Governance.

He thanked Dr. Sasakawa for his generous intervention in the training of lawyers from mainly developing countries in the field of international maritime law. He acknowledged the fruitful cooperation between the Nippon Foundation and the Malta-based IMO International Maritime Law Institute, which saw the training of 153 graduates from 66 States at the Institute. He also thanked Mr Mitsuyuki Unno (the Executive Director of The Nippon Foundation) for his unwavering interest in the work of IMLI.

Dr. Muscat concluded that 'The international community should be grateful to The Nippon Foundation for ensuring that governments, particularly those of developing states, can rely on IMLI trained expertise to serve the rule of international maritime law'.

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