

THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UN CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE COMMEMORATED

IMLI, in collaboration with Faculty of Laws, University of Malta and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion of Malta, organised a seminar entitled ‘The International Legal Protection of The Global Climate: 30 Years since the Maltese UN Climate Change Initiative’ to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the Maltese Climate Change Initiative. The event was held on 16 November 2018 at the University of Malta Campus, Msida.



Mr. Ban Ki-Moon (former UN Secretary-General) unveiling the Climate Change Monument during his visit to IMLI in April 2009

In his speech, Professor Attard recounts the development of the Maltese Initiative and his involvement from the very early stages of conceptualising the initiative for onward presentation at the UN General Assembly.

While acknowledging the complementary role that science and law play towards climate change efforts, Professor Attard affirmed that science did a lot to reduce the impact of climate change. He, however, emphasised that international law is still immature to deal with climate change issues since it has chosen the path of self-regulation.



The Speakers (L-R) Professor David Attard (IMLI), Professor Kevin Aquilina (University of Malta), Hon. Carmelo Abela (Foreign Minister of Malta) and Professor Simone Borg (University of Malta)

Honourable Carmelo Abela said that the event serves as a reminder of what we have achieved and what is still needed to be done. He also said that human activities have brought about a change which is known as climate change. The honourable Minister paid tribute to the efforts of Professor Attard, whom he described as the catalyst of the Maltese initiative, with the presentation of a memento.

Professor Kevin Aquilina, Dean of the Faculty of Laws and Professor Simone Borg also spoke at the event.



Professor Attard receiving the Memento from the Honourable Minister

Observers acknowledged that Malta's climate change initiative was the beginning of a process that led to three important international legal instruments: The 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the 1997 Kyoto Protocol and the 2015 Paris Agreement.

** If you do not want to receive IMLI e-News in future, please return this message to the above address with request to DELETE in the subject field.*

*** For further information, please contact Dr. Buba Bojang (Editor, IMLI e-News) at publications@imli.org*