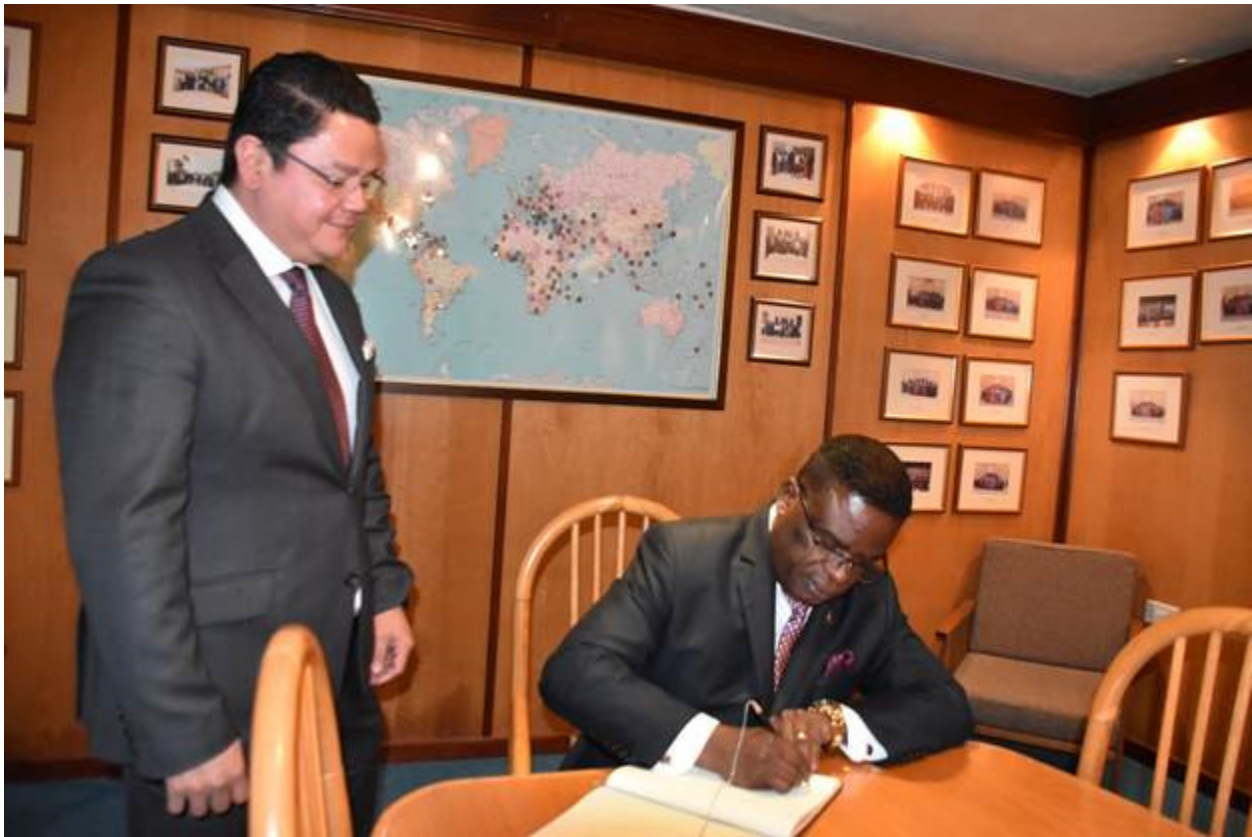


# IMLI *e-News*

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## FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE IMO LEGAL COMMITTEE LECTURES AT IMLI

Dr. Kofi Mbiah (Former Chairman of the IMO Legal Committee and Governor, IMLI Governing Board) visited IMLI on 21 February 2019 and delivered a lecture on “The Work of the IMO Legal Committee: Challenges and Prospects” to the IMLI Class of 2018-2019.



*Dr. Kofi Mbiah (Former Chairman of the IMO Legal Committee and Governor, IMLI Governing Board) signing the IMLI Guest Register*

Dr. Kofi Mbiah began his lecture with an overview of the IMO Legal Committee, from its historical background and establishment to its mandate and structure. He then discussed in detail the mandate and work of the Committee and considerations taken into account by the Committee when new instruments are before it. Dr. Mbiah explained the importance of the uniform and

effective implementation of IMO instruments in the Member States and the pivotal role IMLI plays in this respect.



*Dr. Kofi Mbiah with the IMLI Class of 2018-2019*

Dr Kofi Mbiah sat with the Editor of the IMLI e-News and gave a vivid account of IMLI's progression from inception to date:

*I believe I can say that whatever I do today in terms of my career, work and position has largely been influenced by my training at IMLI. I was at IMLI at the very embryonic stages of its development, and after so many years, when I come back to IMLI, I can tell the level of progression over the years. Fortunately for me, since I left, I did not break ties with IMLI. I have the opportunity to follow the progressive development closely over time that I can say that today IMLI is well positioned as one of the foremost maritime law institutes the world over, and it is so acknowledged.*

*I have had the opportunity to see it in various fields and realms. I would start from the IMO where, after IMLI, I participated actively on the floor until I became Vice-Chairman and then Chairman of the Legal Committee. In these periods, I have witnessed IMLI's phenomenal growth. I had seen times when we had just two IMLI graduates representing their countries to a situation where this representation has grown to over thirty – forty graduates.*

*Over the years, I have also seen not just mere attendance of IMLI graduates but their performance on the floor of the Legal Committee. Their contributions have been as incisive as they have been pertinent. They have shown a clear demonstration and understanding of the issues that are being discussed not only at the legal committee but in other committees as well. Even though I speak for the Legal Committee, I can say that I am aware that they have also participated in other committees of the IMO.*

*My work has also taken me to many parts of the world especially Africa where I had the opportunity to participate in some conferences and discussions on current issues that affect the*

*maritime industry. Such occasions allowed meeting IMLI graduates who are playing a significant role not only in their maritime administration but in their governments.*

*To a very large measure, I would say that over the years, now thirty years in the existence of IMLI, the growth has been phenomenal and tremendous, and so has been the impact. I do recall that I was the head of my class and did mention in my Valedictory Address that come two decades, IMLI would become a force to reckon with in international maritime affairs.*

*I can say, without a shadow of ambivalence, that indeed today, IMLI has that recognition in terms of the world maritime industry.*

Dr. Mbiah is a Barrister at Law. He holds a Masters in Marine Management, (M.M.M.) from Dalhousie University, Canada, a Master of Laws, (LL.M.), from the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) Malta, where he graduated with distinction and was the recipient of the IMO Secretary General's Award for Best Overall Performance. Dr. Mbiah also obtained a Master Degree in Business Administration (MBA) from the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration, in 2005. He obtained his PhD. in Maritime Administration from the World Maritime University, Sweden in 2011. He is a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators U.K. (MCI Arb) and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport. (FCILT) He started his working career at Ghana Shippers Authority in 1982 as an Assistant Legal Officer and rose through the ranks by dint of hard work to become the Chief Executive Officer in 1998. A position he held for 19 years. Dr. Mbiah is the immediate past chairman of the Legal Committee of the International Maritime Organisation. A position he held for 6 years. Served as Chairman of the Union of African Shippers Councils from 2016 to 2017. Since 2006 till date, Dr Mbiah has served at various times as a visiting professor at the World Maritime and Lund Universities in Malmo, Sweden and the IMO

International Maritime Law Institute in Malta. Dr Mbiah has also served as a resource person and maritime law expert at various international seminars and conferences including CMI conferences and Maritime Law seminars for judges in Kenya, Ghana and Nigeria. He has published articles in local and international magazines and journals. In 2015, the IMO appointed Dr. Mbiah to the Board of Governors of IMLI. He is a proud recipient of many awards for excellence including the IMLI International Achievement Award.

He now works with ALLIANCE PARTNERS as a Private Legal Practitioner and a Maritime Law and Management Consultant.

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