

**DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL MOBILE SATELLITE ORGANIZATION LECTURES AT IMLI**

Captain Moin Ahmed (Director-General, the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO)) visited the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) on 15 April 2019 and delivered a lecture on the “Regulatory Oversight of Certain Satellite Communication Systems and Coordination of the LRIT System” to the IMLI Class of 2018-2019.



*Captain Moin Ahmed (Director-General, the International Mobile Satellite Organization) meeting the IMLI Class of 2018-2019*

Captain Moin Ahmed began his lecture with the historical development and purpose of IMSO as an inter-governmental organization. IMSO was originally established as the International Maritime Satellite Organization (INMARSAT) pursuant to the Convention on the International Maritime Satellite Organization 1976, as amended and later renamed as the International Mobile

Satellite Organization in 1994 due to the expansion of its role in other areas. Following a restructuring and privatization exercise that came into effect in April 1999, IMSO continued as an inter-governmental organization with an oversight and regulatory remit, while the commercial and safety related satellite operations and services were then vested in the private company “Inmarsat”. IMSO now operates from its Headquarters within the IMO building in London, the United Kingdom.



*Captain Moin Ahmed and Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI)  
with the IMLI Class of 2018-2019*

He mentioned the purposes of IMSO which include oversight of certain public satellite safety and security communication services, particularly safety of life at sea - Global Maritime Distress and Safety Services (GMDSS), the coordination of the International System for the Long Range Identification and Tracking of Ships (LRIT) worldwide and support to aeronautical communications, among others.

On IMSO oversight of GMDSS, Captain Ahmed first described GMDSS as an international system which uses terrestrial and satellite technology and ship-board radio-systems to rapidly inform authorities and ships in the immediate vicinity, in the event of marine distress. Second, he informed the students that IMSO oversees and assesses the performance of all components of the GMDSS and the availability of mobile satellite communications for the GMDSS.



*Captain Moin Ahmed delivering his lecture*

On IMSO's role about the coordination of LRIT, Captain Ahmed explained that IMO established the LRIT system to improve maritime security, safety and environment protection and invited IMSO to assume the functions of Coordinator of the system.

Captain Ahmed encouraged IMLI students to consider the IMSO legal instruments such as IMSO Convention, Public Services Agreement (PSA), LRIT services agreement etc. as a part of their study in maritime law.

Captain Moin Ahmed is the Director-General of the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO). He holds a Certificate of Competency as Master Mariner and MSc in Shipping Management (Technical). He was also educated on maritime satellite navigation and communication systems. In his maritime professional career of more than 40 years, he spent ten years at sea and 30 years in shore establishments with senior appointments in technical, operational, commercial, training of maritime personnel, maritime safety administration and in the UN system as a senior international civil servant. In the UN system, he served at the highest professional category at the IMO Secretariat on Technical Cooperation, Maritime Safety and Member State Audit. Prior to joining the IMO Secretariat, he represented Bangladesh to IMO and several other international organizations and has contributed to the promotion of maritime safety, security and protection of the marine environment. He brings with him a wealth of global experience and is known as an organizational leader in setting standards of excellence. He demonstrated his leadership role as the Chairman of the IMO Technical Co-operation Committee, IMSO Assembly, several international expert groups, President of the World Maritime University (WMU) Student Council and also as a Governor of World Maritime University Board. He had been a visiting faculty member of the IMO International Maritime Academy and currently at the World Maritime University.

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