

The IMO International Maritime Law Institute Official Electronic Newsletter (Vol. 16, Issue No. 84) 26 September 2019

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME COMMUNITY CELEBRATES WORLD MARITIME DAY

The international maritime community is celebrating today, 26 September 2019, World Maritime Day. World Maritime Day is an opportunity for the international maritime community to commemorate the efforts to promote safety of life at sea and to preserve the marine environment through international mechanisms and instruments.





Lt. Paulina Vázquez Contreras (Mexico), Ms. María Isabel López Cruz (Nicaragua), Lt. Liliana Brajic (Mexico), Lt. Carolina Riesco Fuenzalida (Chile) at the Parallel Event to World Maritime Day 2019

The World Maritime Day theme for this year is "Empowering Women in the Maritime Community". In selecting this maritime theme, IMO provides an opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of gender equality, in line with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 5, and to highlight the important contribution the women already make within the maritime sector.

The IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI), which was the first in the United Nations system to mandate that 50 per cent of the places in its programmes is reserved for qualified women candidates, celebrates World Maritime Day. To commemorate this year's theme, IMLI held an International Seminar on Empowering Women in Maritime Affairs last April. The seminar aimed to encourage participation of women in maritime affairs, including equal rights of access to quality education, engagement in the development of international maritime law, active participation in maritime practice, inclusion of women in the shipping and trade sector, and representation in international fora.



IMLI celebrates World Maritime Day by taking stock of its contributions to the successful attainment of IMO's mandate through education and research. As IMLI prepares to welcome the 31st generation of maritime professionals who will attend its programmes and courses for the academic year 2019-2020, the Institute is proud to record that out of 58 participants, 30 are women.

World Maritime Day was first held in 1978 to mark the 20th anniversary of the IMO Convention. Celebrations are held throughout the world to focus attention on the importance of shipping, safety, maritime security and the marine environment, and to emphasize a particular aspect of IMO's work. Colombia was the epicenter of the main meeting of the international maritime community as the host of the Parallel Event to World Maritime Day 2019.

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