IMO ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL LECTURES AT IMLI

Mr. Lawrence Dehniah Barchue Sr. (Assistant Secretary-General / Director, Department for Member State Audit and Implementation Support, International Maritime Organization (IMO)) delivered a lecture to the IMLI Class of 2019-2020 on ‘Development of a Compliance Monitoring Mechanism – The IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS).’

Mr. Lawrence Dehniah Barchue Sr. (Assistant Secretary-General / Director, Department for Member State Audit and Implementation Support, International Maritime Organization (IMO)) and Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI)
Mr. Barchue started his lecture by providing a brief historical background of the compliance monitoring mechanism. He then addressed the institutionalization of the audit scheme, relevant IMO resolutions and expected benefits of mandatory audit scheme by using analogies to aviation and International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). Mr. Barchue also covered the evolution of IMSAS. In this regard, he explained the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme (VIMSAS) and the chronological development of IMSAS.

While addressing the students, Mr. Barchue highlighted the role of IMO Member States, shipping industry, seafarers and recognized organizations, being the main actors in the shipping industry, in ensuring compliance with the international maritime standards. He also mentioned the IMO Instruments Implementation Code (III Code) which serves as the audit standard under the IMSAS.
Mr. Lawrence Dehniah Barchue Sr. with Professor David Attard and the IMLI Class of 2019-2020

Mr. Barchue emphasized that the ultimate effectiveness of any IMO instrument depends upon the Member States acting in their capacity as port, flag and coastal States. Hence, it is their primary responsibility to have in place an adequate and effective system to exercise control over ships, and to ensure that they comply with relevant international rules and regulations in respect of maritime safety, security and protection of the marine environment. In this regard, Mr. Barchue encouraged the IMLI students, upon their graduation, to assist their respective countries in meeting their responsibilities and discharging their obligations under the conventions and other instruments to which they are party, in particular with respect to the enactment of relevant laws and regulations.

At the end of his lecture, Mr. Barchue placed the IMLI badge on the map to record the representation of Sao Tome and Principe for the first time in any of IMLI’s programmes. The
participation of Ms. Josenelcia Da Conceição Bandeira (student from São Tome and Principe) was made possible thanks to the generous funds of the IMO Technical Cooperation Division.

Mr. Lawrence Dehniah Barchue Sr. and Ms. Josenelcia Da Conceição Bandeira (student from São Tome and Principe) place the IMLI badge on the map to record the representation of Sao Tome and Principe at IMLI for the first time.

Mr. Barchue is a Chief Marine Engineer and from 1992 to February 2002, he served as Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Liberia to the IMO and Counsellor (Maritime Affairs), Embassy of Liberia in London. During this period, he also represented the Government of Liberia at meetings of the International Mobile Satellite Organization, the International Labour Organization and International Telecommunications Union. He served as Chairman of the Facilitation Committee of IMO from 1996 to 2002 as well as a Chairman of a number of working groups at meetings convened by intergovernmental organizations. In March 2002, Mr. Barchue joined the IMO Secretariat and has dealt with the implementation of IMO instruments related
matters, including serving as the principal member of the Secretariat responsible for the development and implementation of the IMO Member State Audit Scheme. Besides his current position, Mr. Barchue has served in the following capacities: Head, Technical Cooperation Implementation and Project Management Section of the Maritime Safety Division (March 2002 to December 2003); Deputy Director/Head, Member State Audit and Internal Oversight, Office of the Secretary-General (January 2004 to June 2010); Senior Deputy Director, Member State Audit and Internal Oversight, Office of the Secretary-General (July 2010 to December 2011); Head, Department for Member State Audit and Implementation Support, Maritime Safety Division (January 2012 to August 2014). Mr. Barchue holds a Master of Science degree in Maritime Education and Training – Engineering from World Maritime University, Sweden and a Bachelor Degree (Honours) in Marine Engineering from Maine Maritime Academy, USA.

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