

IMLIe-News

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HEAD OF SPECIAL PROJECTS OF THE MARITIME SAFETY DIVISION AT THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION (IMO) LECTURES AT IMLI

The Institute had the pleasure of welcoming for the first time, Mr. Irfan Rahim (Head, Special Projects, Maritime Safety Division, IMO) on 15 October, 2019. During his visit, Mr. Rahim who met with the staff and students of the IMLI Class of 2019-2020, delivered a lecture under the rubric “*Technical Assistance Identification, Management and Governance*”. This was subdivided into two aspects, namely “*Domestic Ferry Safety and the potential role of IMLI*” and “*The new Country Maritime Profile (CMP)*”.



Mr. Irfan Rahim with the IMLI Class of 2019-2020

In thanking the Director for extending an invitation to him to lecture at the Institute, Mr. Rahim stated that he was honoured to be at IMLI, a place that is a ‘game changer’ as to how maritime law is taught. He encouraged the students to take full advantage of the immense benefits that IMLI offers.

The lecture commenced by Mr. Rahim confirming that domestic ferry safety is a key issue in many parts of the world today. He stated that the unacceptable high levels of domestic ferry accidents have led to a considerable number of lives being lost each year. He went on to discuss the common causes for such accidents but concluded that the most important was the lack of all-encompassing national legislation. He said one of the major outcomes of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC)

in its 101st Session, held in London from 5-14 June, was the development of Model Regulations on Domestic Ferry Safety, with the aim to provide mandatory domestic ferry safety regimes for compliance, yet providing the flexibility of how to meet the requirements.

Mr. Rahim is confident that the development of these Regulations, and their incorporation into national law, will be the solution sought after by all. He explains that the Model Regulations on Domestic Ferry Safety is expected to be completed by the year 2022.



Mr. Irfan Rahim delivering his lecture

In the second ambit of his lecture, Mr. Rahim introduced the students to the newly developed GISIS Country Maritime Profile (CMP), of which he is the architect, by making a live presentation to explain the system in detail. IMLI is proud to note that it is the first Institute that has been privileged to see this live presentation. This innovative mechanism represents the IMO's initiative for identifying the needs of developing countries for technical cooperation. Mr. Rahim emphasised the importance of keeping the CMP module up-to-date by IMO Member States and encouraged IMLI students to ensure that their respective countries CMP modules are accurate, upon completing their training at IMLI.

Mr. Irfan Rahim is a Professional Master Mariner (Unlimited). He has an MBA Essentials from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), an LLM in International Business Law and another in International Justice. He has a BSc (Hons) in Transport Technology and a Diploma in Nautical Studies amongst others.

Mr. Rahim has acquired a vast professional experience in his career. Before his current position at the IMO, he was the Chief of Transport Infrastructure Section at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). Prior to this, he was the Head of Cargoes and Facilitation Section/Cargoes Section at the IMO. Between 1996 and 1998, he was the Regional Director, Asia and the Pacific (Infrastructure development & enhancement), in Malaysia. He has also lectured in the area of Nautical Studies at the World Maritime University Branch Campus, also in Malaysia.

At the IMO, Mr. Rahim has made marked contributions. He has led and directed the development of technical assistance needs' identification, management and governance strategy; thereby strengthening strategic approaches to technical assistance and cooperation. He conducted the first ever review of international law on the obligation to rescue persons in distress at sea. Further, he led and facilitated deliberations on unsafe mixed migration by sea thereby, preventing loss of lives and fostering efforts towards sustainable migration taking into account aspects of safety of life at sea, law of the sea, international human rights law and refugee law.

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