



ITLOS PRESIDENT RECEIVES IMLI'S AWARD

The press is invited to attend the presentation of IMLI's "Award for Meritorious Contribution towards the Development, Interpretation and Implementation of International Maritime Law" to the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) which will take place during IMLI's 19th Annual Graduation Ceremony to be held on 3 May 2008 at the Malta Maritime Museum in Vittoriosa, beginning at 10.30 o'clock.

Judge Rüdiger Wolfrum, President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), who will be present at the Ceremony will receive the Award on behalf of ITLOS and all judges of the Tribunal.

ITLOS was established under the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. It is composed of a body of Judges elected from persons enjoying the highest reputation for fairness and integrity, who enjoy recognized competence in the field of the law of the sea and who represent the principal legal systems of the world. It is empowered to decide all disputes and all applications submitted in accordance with the 1982 Convention. To date it has settled prominent disputes in different areas of the law of the sea including the prompt release of vessels and crew, coastal state jurisdiction in its maritime zones, freedom of navigation, hot pursuit, marine environmental law, flags of convenience and conservation of fish stocks. It has, through its judgments, contributed directly and in a meaningful manner towards the development and implementation of international maritime law.

Therefore IMLI acclaims the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea a most deserving candidate for the Award for Meritorious Contribution towards the Development, Interpretation and Implementation of International Maritime Law.



*Judge Rüdiger Wolfrum,
President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea*

Judge Rüdiger Wolfrum has been a Member of the Tribunal since 1 October 1996. He was the Vice-President of the Tribunal 1996–1999, President of the Chamber for Marine Environment Disputes 1997-1999, Member of the Special Chamber formed to deal with the *Case concerning the Conservation and Sustainable Exploitation of Swordfish Stocks in the South-Eastern Pacific Ocean* and has been the President of the Tribunal since 1 October 2005.

Judge Wolfrum is also the Director of the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law (Heidelberg, Germany) and Professor at the Faculty of Law, University of Heidelberg.

He is Member of the International Law Association and Member of the Executive Board of the Law of the Sea Institute, University of Hawaii and University of Miami, Member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Hamburg and Member of the Institut de Droit International.

He has published excessively and is an author and editor of numerous books and articles on various issues of public international law, law of the sea, international environmental law, human rights, United Nations and the Antarctic.

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