

## MINISTER COUNSELOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA VISITS IMLI

Dr. Sammy (Youngsun) Park (Minister Counselor at the Republic of Korea Embassy in London) visited IMLI and delivered a lecture on “Shipping and Shipbuilding Industry: A Korean Perspective”.

During his lecture Minister Park noted that the key to the success of his country’s shipping industry has been, among others, the nation’s challenging spirit, the adoption of right policies at the right time and well educated people. Mr. Park explained that becoming the number one shipbuilding country in the world has been a challenging experience for the Republic of Korea.



*Dr. Sammy (Youngsun) Park (Minister Counselor at the Republic of Korea Embassy in London)  
meeting students of the Class of 2011/2012*

He recalled that, at that time, Hyundai got into the shipbuilding activity without having built a single vessel, without the facilities, the technical ability or the funds to do so. However, through determination and the adoption of a policy on “National Support for Shipbuilding Company” the country managed to build breakwaters, build dry docks, train workers (welders, crane operators, ship designers, etc) and build ships. After overcoming many pitfalls, the Company holds the leading position in the Shipbuilding industry and is followed by other Korean companies.

Minster Park stated that the current situation of the Korean shipping industry is based on free competition, employment of foreign crew members on Korean Vessels, registration of ships in flags of open registries by Korean owners, and major business activities with developing countries.

All these developments have made it possible for the Republic of Korea to become a country that is able to share its experience with other nations and which is willing to offer its assistance to all those countries that will need it.

Minister Sammy Park graduated from the Korean Maritime University in 1979, where he obtained a BS in Nautical Science. In 2007, Minister Park received his Doctoral Degree in Law from the same University. Before joining the Korean Government in 1985, he served as an officer on board ships for a period of five years. He has been a visiting researcher at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, Chairman of the Tokyo Memorandum of Understanding and Visiting Professor of the Korean Maritime University. He is currently Minister Counselor at the Republic of Korea Embassy in London and the Alternate Permanent Representative of his country to IMO.

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