



SWISS GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR IMLI

The Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Switzerland, in coordination with the Swiss Maritime Navigation Office, has recently renewed its Donor's Agreement with IMLI.



*Dr. Reto Dürler, Head of the Swiss Maritime Navigation Office
And Member of the IMLI Governing Board*

The agreement covers a fixed annual financial contribution to the Institute for four academic years beginning 2007-2008 to 2010-2011. This financial contribution will enable the Institute to continue with its program of providing post-graduate study and research opportunities in the field of international maritime law to government-nominated candidates. It is anticipated that many deserving students will benefit from this generous contribution and their training at the Institute will enable them to assist the maritime sectors in their respective home countries when they return from their studies.

It is through generous contributions, like the one currently being made by the Government of Switzerland, that the Institute is able to continue to pursue its goal of providing education to promising professionals which they can use as a means to focus on, and create the foundation for, a successful, beneficial and effective global legal order for the oceans. This generous contribution will pave the way to enable governments in developing States to access training opportunities for their domestic legal personnel in the

field of international maritime law. Developing States will thus be able to generate national legal expertise in respect of the following: (i) the adherence to the applicable international maritime law conventions and legal instruments, (ii) the implementation and incorporation of such conventions and instruments into national law, (iii) the effective enforcement of the relevant national law, and (iv) the proper interpretation of that national law to ensure harmonization with the applicable international regime.

This contribution would not have been possible without the kind assistance of Dr. Peter Müller, Secretary General of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, and Dr. Reto Dürler, Head of the Swiss Maritime Navigation Office. Special mention should also be made to the continuing support of IMLI's Swiss graduand, Dr. Iris Wigger, who now works in the Swiss Maritime Navigation Office.

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