

**HEAD OF WESTERN ASIA AND EASTERN EUROPE,
SUBDIVISION FOR MARITIME DEVELOPMENT,
TECHNICAL COOPERATION DIVISION OF IMO LECTURES AT IMLI**

Mr. Ivaylo Valev (Head, Western Asia and Eastern Europe, Subdivision for Maritime Development, Technical Cooperation Division of IMO) delivered a lecture on 28 January 2021 under the rubric “*IMO's Work in Global Regions: The Example of Western Asia and Eastern Europe Region*” to the IMLI Class of 2020-2021. Mr. Valev was introduced to the Class by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI), who expressed his pleasure at having him at IMLI’s virtual platform to lecture.



Mr. Ivaylo Valev (Head, Western Asia and Eastern Europe, Subdivision for Maritime Development, Technical Cooperation Division of IMO) delivering his lecture

In his lecture, Mr. Valev emphasised on the mandate of the Organization to facilitate as necessary technical cooperation according to Article 2(e) of the IMO Convention and gave a

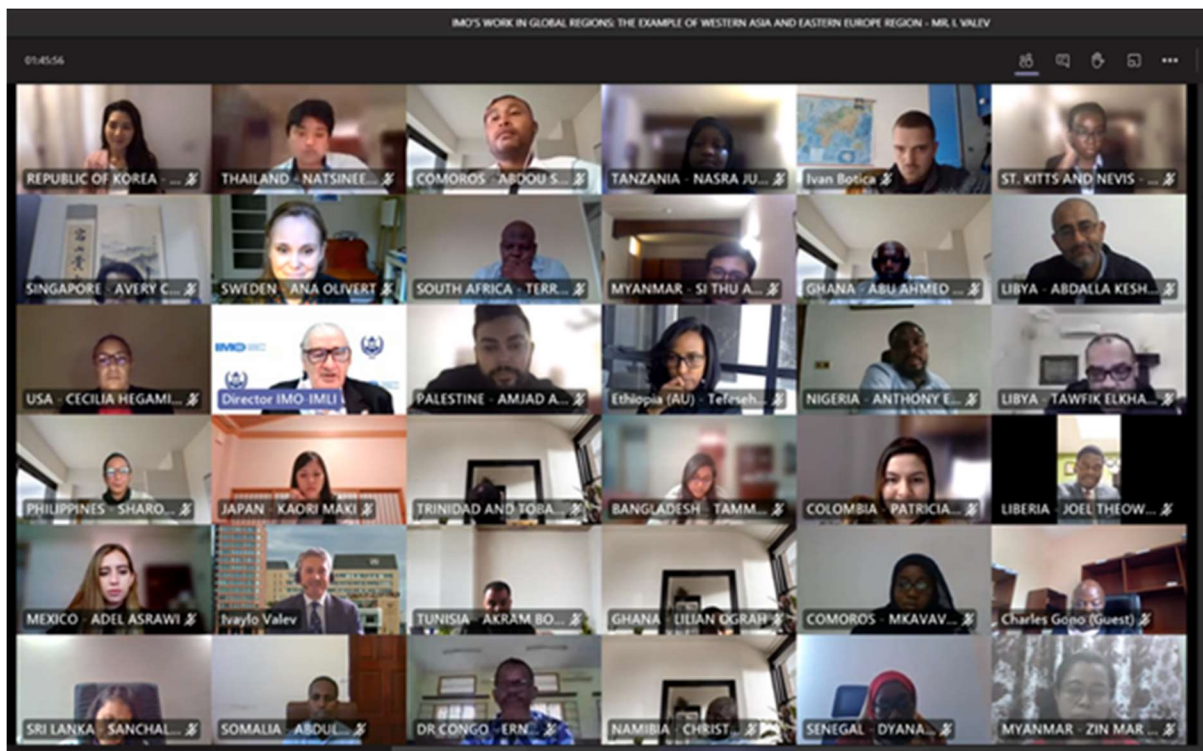
brief overview of the Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP) as means to deliver assistance to the Member States. He went on to describe a step-by step example of the IMO regulatory process highlighting that between the moment of adoption until the moment of entry into force a 10 years' time span could be experienced and that the technical cooperation could come into play and reduce this gap.

Mr Valev described the process of assessing a request for technical assistance and the advantage of relying on IMSAS audits as an invaluable source in identifying implementation gaps and facilitating targeted assistance. He informed the audience that due to the confidentiality of the audit reports, audited Member States requesting technical assistance from IMO to assist them in implementing corrective actions arising out of the audit, were requested to authorize the Secretariat to make use of their final audit report as this would facilitate the identification of the required targeted assistance and the programming of the relevant ITCP activities that address the real needs of the Member State.

While each IMO Member State, in order to give full effect of the IMO regulatory process, must designate an "administration" - national authority or agency - for implementing the provisions of each and every IMO instrument they become a Party to, as it applies to ships over which the national authority has jurisdiction, the division of responsibilities among various entities of a State requires a holistic approach in achieving overall effectiveness. Mr Valev underlined the importance of an overall strategy as a mechanism which brings together all entities of a State, which participate in the implementation and enforcement of the mandatory IMO instruments. Collectively, they perform all functions of a maritime administration in a co-ordinated manner. In this regard Mr Valev continued by stressing on the importance of the follow up missions delivered through the ITCP during which a methodology can be established to monitor and assess that the above-mentioned strategy ensures effective implementation and enforcement of the IMO instruments.

Mr Valev delivered an overview of the maritime domain within the TCD region: Western Asia and Eastern Europe. He continued mentioning the importance of partnering with regional Intergovernmental Organizations and development institutions and listed most active of them in relation to cooperation with IMO. Mr Valev completed his lecture by giving an example of document for accession to IMO treaty being deposited with the Secretary-General as the final

outcome of multifaceted technical assistance delivered to a Member State and consider this achievement as one of the proofs for success.



Mr. Ivaylo Valev was born in Varna, Bulgaria and obtained a Masters in Nautical Science from the Nikola Vaptsarov Naval Academy in Varna, which is the oldest technical educational institution in the Republic of Bulgaria. He holds a post graduate degree in International Finance from the University on World Economy in Sofia, Bulgaria. Mr. Valev has a diploma from Cambridge Academy of Transport on English Maritime Law. He is a graduate of the 8th Maritime Public Leaders' Programme, MPA Academy & Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. Mr. Valev has over 28 years of professional experience in the maritime domain, and spent 7 years of them at sea, serving mainly on container ships. He is a Certified Master Mariner by the Bulgarian Maritime Administration (BMA). Mr. Valev's last post in the Bulgarian Civil Service was as Director, Quality Management, European Integration and International Relations, BMA.

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