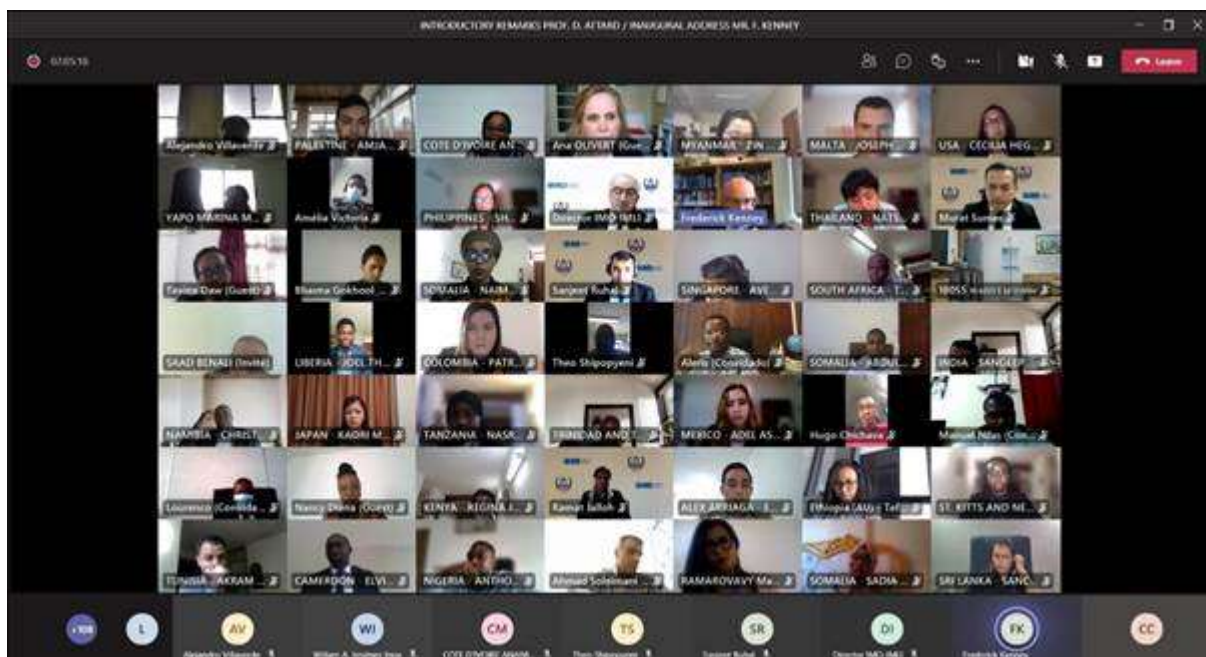


DIRECTOR OF THE IMO LEGAL AFFAIRS AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS DIVISION INAUGURATES THE IMLI COURSE ON INTERNATIONAL MARITIME SECURITY LAW

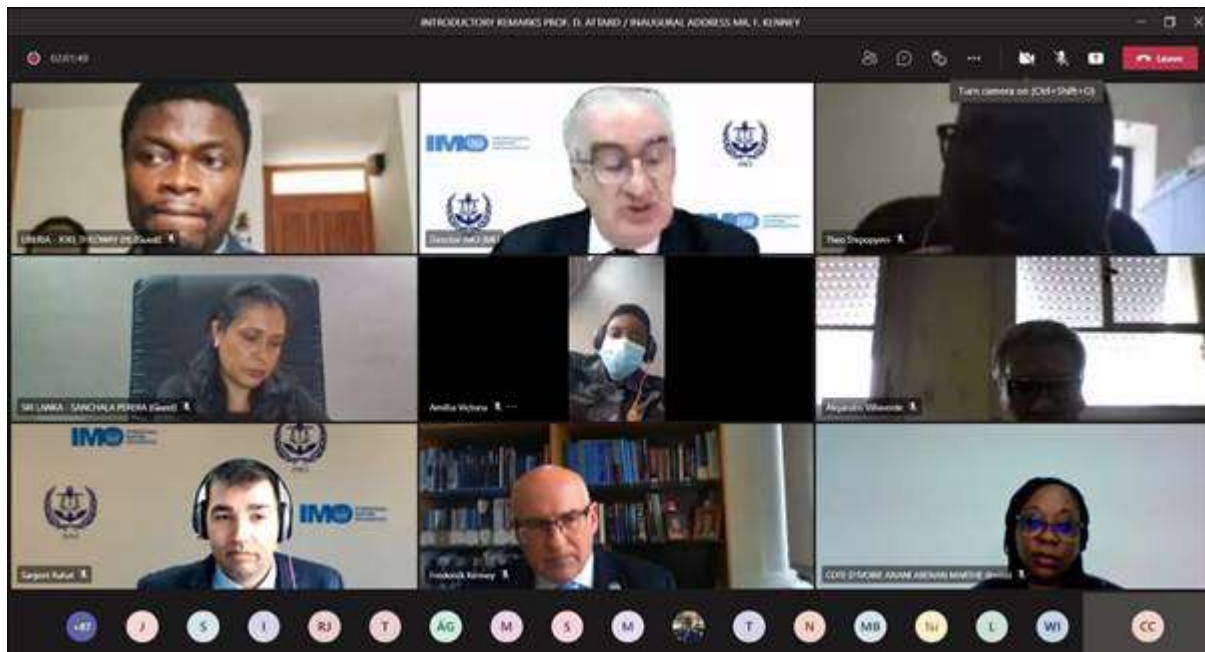
Mr. Frederick J. Kenney Jr. (Director, IMO Legal Affairs and External Relations Division) delivered the inaugural address at the IMLI Course on International Maritime Security Law on 1 March 2021. Mr. Kenney was welcomed to address the IMLI class and the participants of the Course by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI).



Mr. Frederick J. Kenney Jr. (Director, IMO Legal Affairs and External Relations Division) delivering his address to the Course Participants

Professor Attard opened the Course by welcoming the 143 participants who hail from 82 countries to this very important Course to the Institute which has been teaching maritime security law for the past 30 years. He advised the participants that, although that there is no universally recognized definition of maritime security, they should have a wider vision in regard to the ever-evolving complex maritime security threats. He underscored that the

framework of the United Nations Charter is the basis of international peace and security and noted that this position is reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Professor Attard proceeded then to highlight IMO's significant role in promoting and maintaining international peace and security at sea through its conventions, codes, and various other instruments.



Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) delivering the Opening Remarks

Professor Attard concluded his remarks by introducing Mr. Frederick Kenney. As Professor Attard pointed out, Mr. Kenney holds the post of Director of Legal Affairs and External Relations Division at IMO. Professor Attard recalled that, prior to joining IMO, Mr. Kenney has had a longstanding career in law enforcement, with extensive experience in conducting maritime security operations, including serving as Commanding Officer of the US Coast Guard's Pacific Area Tactical Law Enforcement Team. He has conducted counter-narcotics and migrant interdiction operations in the Caribbean and Eastern Pacific, UN Security Council sanctions enforcement operations in the Middle East and off the former Republic of Yugoslavia. Mr. Kenney also helped develop the Maritime Operational Threat Response (MOTR) system in the US.

Mr. Kenney commenced his address by remarking that he was impressed to see the diverse group of participants nominated by their governments to attend the Course. He congratulated

the Director and staff of IMLI for making such a Course available and also for bringing together all the eminent experts of maritime security law who will address the participants. He noted that the timing of the Course is quite appropriate given current and emerging threats in the maritime domain, including piracy in the Gulf of Guinea and threats of cyber-attacks. These threats, he said, are becoming more alarming given the rise in digitization in the maritime industry and the coming of autonomous surface ships.

Mr. Kenney then proceeded to discuss the definition and scope of maritime security threats, emerging threats and IMO's dedication to safe, secure shipping on clean oceans. He explained the role of IMO in furthering maritime security with specific reference to the Organization's decisive action in the adoption of the amendments to SOLAS Chapter XI-2 and the ISPS Code in 2002 and the subsequent new protocols to the SUA Convention and Protocol in 2005. Mr. Kenney confirmed that IMO will continue to examine the issue of cyber threat closely, in particular with the ongoing work regarding Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships.

He concluded by wishing the participants all the best in their studies and assured them that IMLI had developed an amazing programme with a star-studded list of lecturers, all experts in the field.

Dr. Sanjeet Ruhel (the Nippon Foundation Lecturer on International Maritime Security Law at IMLI) gave the administrative briefing for the Course, outlining its structure and methodology. He then summarized the expected outcomes for the participants.

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