



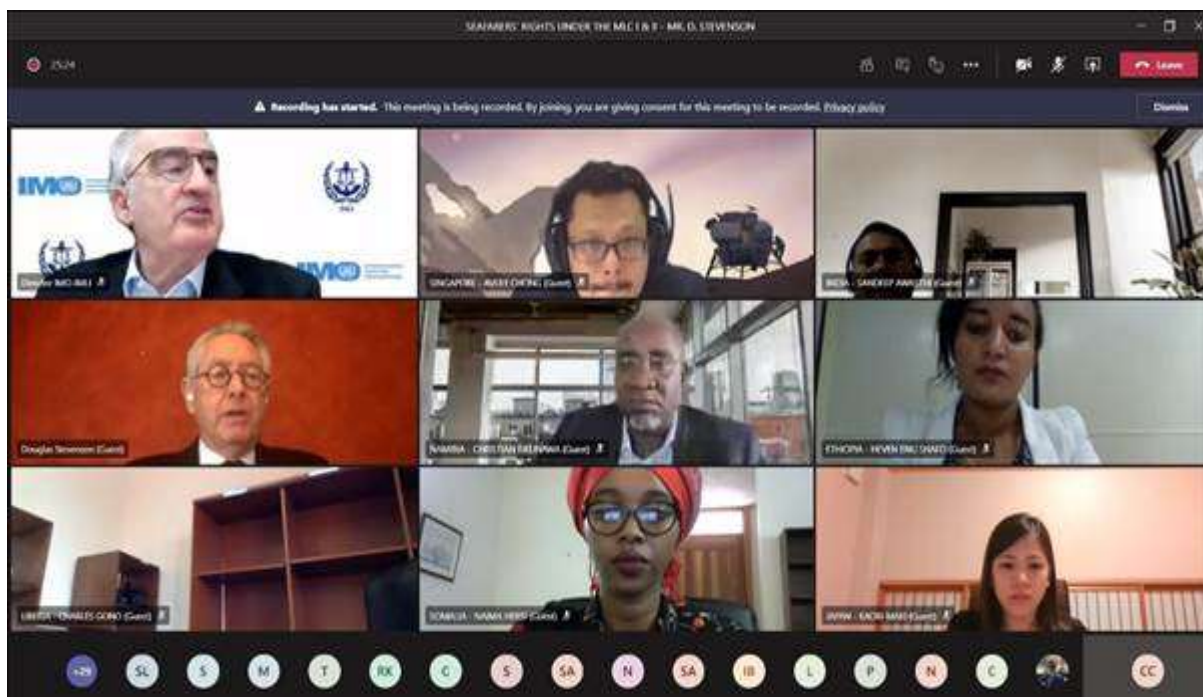
**DIRECTOR EMERITUS OF THE CENTER FOR MARINER ADVOCACY AT THE
SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY
LECTURES AT IMLI**

Mr. Douglas B. Stevenson (Director Emeritus, Center for Seafarers' Rights, the Seamen's Church Institute of New York & New Jersey) delivered a set of lectures on Seafarers' Rights and the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) on 22-24 February 2021 to the IMLI Class of 2020-2021 and the participants in the IMLI Course on Seafarer's Rights. Mr. Stevenson was introduced to the Class by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) who expressed his pleasure at having Mr. Stevenson lecturing within this very important IMLI Course.

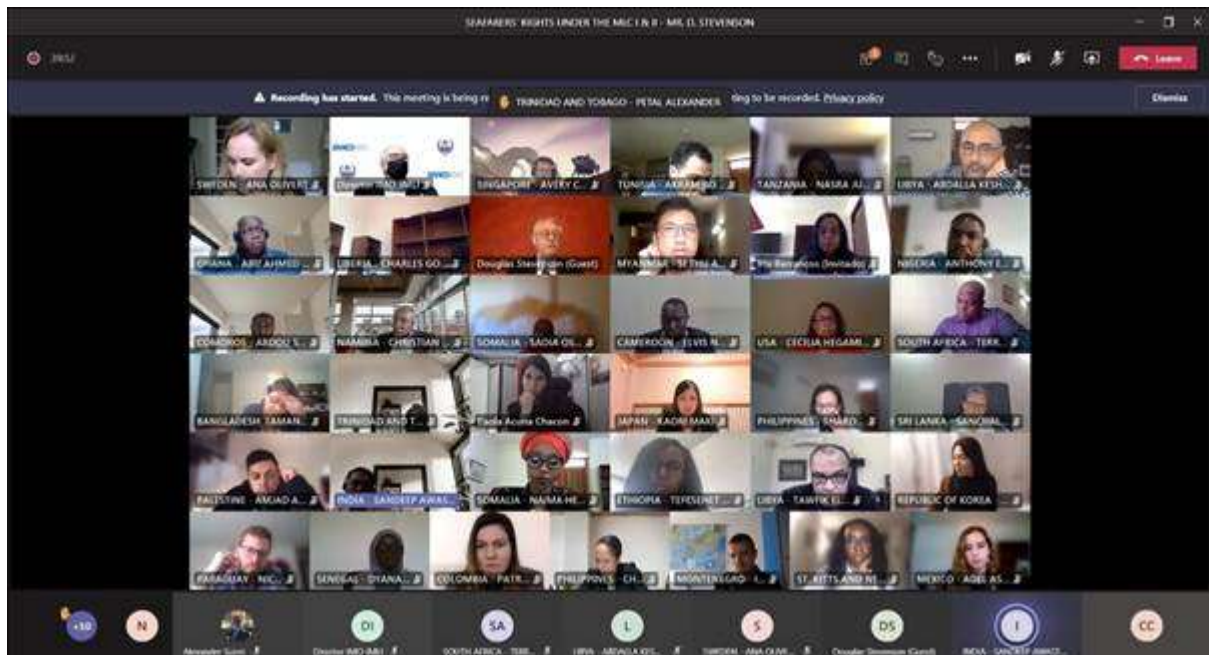


Mr. Douglas B. Stevenson (Director Emeritus, Center for Seafarers' Rights, the Seamen's Church Institute of New York & New Jersey)

Mr. Stevenson commenced his lectures by highlighting the importance of studying seafarers' rights. He noted that, in his view, the biggest threat to Maritime Security, is an untrained, overworked and a dissatisfied seafarer. He stated that, contrary to popular belief, piracy is not the biggest threat to Maritime Security. Maritime Security is primarily concerned in ensuring that the Sea Lines of Communication (SLOCs) are open. To effectively accomplish this, vessels traversing the SLOCs need to be crewed by skilled seafarers. In this regard, he believes that problems faced by seafarers must be addressed by way of ensuring that they are cared for and attractive packages are given to them, thereby making career at sea more enticing.



This introduction was followed by a three-day intensive training on the implementation of the MLC in national legislation and the relationship between the Mandatory and Recommendatory parts of the Code to the Convention. Mr. Stevenson's interactive method of teaching encourages students to participate within groups and in individual discussions on the case studies which highlight the particularly difficult areas within the Convention and the means to solve the challenges which arise in real life.



Mr. Stevenson has provided legal assistance and advocacy for merchant mariners worldwide. He is a maritime lawyer and a retired U.S. Coast Guard Officer. Prior to joining the staff of the Seamen's Church Institute, Mr. Stevenson served in a variety of Coast Guard legal and operational assignments including command at sea and as political and security advisor at the US Mission to the United Nations. He is the recipient of the Chamber of Shipping of America's Rear Admiral Halpert C. Shephard Award and the Diocese of New York's Servant of Justice Award. He serves as President of the Life Saving Benevolent Association of New York and is Past Chairman of the International Christian Maritime Association. He is a graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and the University of Miami School of Law.

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