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SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION LECTURES AT IMLI

Dr. Mathias Jonas (Secretary-General of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)) delivered on 1 March 2021, a lecture entitled "Hydrographic Aids - Interrelations to UNCLOS and IMO Instruments" to the IMLI Class of 2020-2021. Dr. Jonas was welcomed by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI).



Dr. Mathias Jonas (Secretary-General of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO))

Dr. Jonas commenced his lecture by giving a brief history of the work of the IHO. He informed the students that hydrography deals with the measurement and description of the physical features of oceans, seas, coastal areas, lakes and rivers, as well as with the prediction of their change over time. Dr. Jonas provided the students with insights on hydrographic aids and their interrelation to IMO instruments, including conduct of hydrography, carriage requirements for nautical information and status of unmanned survey units. Dr. Jonas also discussed hydrographic aides and their interrelation to UNCLOS, including mapping of the ocean, Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea (ABLOS), the definition of continental shelf limits and maritime jurisdictional zones, and the naming of underwater features.



Dr. Jonas took up his appointment at the IHO Secretariat in Monaco on 1 September 2017. Prior to this election, he held the posts of Vice President of the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency and National Hydrographer of Germany with responsibility for sea survey and sea cartography.

Being a mariner, Dr. Jonas has been involved in integrated navigation matters since the beginning of the nineties. In addition, he has completed the world's first Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS) type approval in 1999 and has continuously contributed to IMO and IHO standardisation activities for navigation equipment, survey and cartography.

In his former position as Chairman of the IHO Hydrographic Standards and Services Committee (HSSC), he supervised altogether ten different technical standardisation Working Groups. One of the core projects of the IHO, the S-100 concept, was developed during his term

as Chair. As one of the responsibilities of his current post he holds the Chair of the Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica.

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