Mr. Chris Trelawny (Former Acting Director, IMO Technical Cooperation Division) delivered on 11 November 2020, a lecture on ‘The Role and Achievements of the IMO’s Technical Cooperation Division’ to the IMLI Class of 2020-2021.

In his interactive lecture, Mr. Trelawny informed the students of the mission of the IMO and the role of the Technical Cooperation Division towards the achievement of the Organization’s goals. His lecture comprehensively covered the programmes undertaken by the Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme which are IMO’s response to the needs of Member States to ensure the effective implementation of the regulatory framework adopted by the
Organization. Mr. Trelawny engaged the students during his lecture who, in his opinion, have an important role to play in the translation of IMO instruments into action on the ground in their home countries.

Mr. Chris Trelawny joined the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in March 2003 as a maritime security specialist. In December 2011, he was appointed Senior Deputy Director and in November 2014 he was promoted to Special Advisor to the Secretary-General on Maritime Security and Facilitation. In August 2018 he was appointed to the new post of Chief, Sub-Division for Maritime Development within the International Maritime Organization’s Technical Cooperation Division.

Mr. Trelawny has been responsible for advising and liaising with IMO Member Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations on the development of the maritime sector including the facilitation of global maritime transport, underpinned by good maritime security; and promoting better maritime governance and interagency cooperation. His recent projects have included the development of multidisciplinary, multi-agency projects aimed at finding regional solutions for piracy and maritime security challenges. These include the development of the “Djibouti Code of Conduct” (DCoC) (signed by 20 countries) aimed at addressing piracy and armed robbery against ships in the Gulf of Aden and western Indian Ocean, the “Yaounde Code of Conduct”, a similar agreement for West and Central Africa, adopted by 25 countries in June 2013, and the and the Jeddah Amendment to the DCoC, 2017. Chris has also worked closely with navies on issues relating to maritime security operations, counter proliferation and civil/military cooperation; and with other agencies on issues such as security of the supply chain.

Before joining IMO, Mr. Trelawny spent six years with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) where he led on air cargo security and four years with the UK Government in aviation security roles, including the introduction of the UK air cargo security programme; and eight years with HM Customs largely at Heathrow but also at sea on HM Customs Cutters.

Mr. Trelawny served for 30 years as an officer in the Royal Naval Reserve. In 2014 he was awarded the UK’s Merchant Navy Medal for his work on countering piracy and in 2016 he was awarded the United States International Police and Public Safety 9/11 Medal – Maritime for his work on maritime security.

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