JUDGE KRIANGSAK KITTICHAISAREE LECTURES AT IMLI

Judge Kriangsak Kittichaisaree (Judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)), delivered a lecture on 11 May to the IMLI Class of 2020-2021 entitled ‘Legality of Enforcement Activities at Sea (Cases No. 2, 19, 24 and 25).’ He was introduced by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI), who expressed his delight to have him deliver a lecture at IMLI and paid tribute to his outstanding academic contributions to the law of the sea including a monograph on ITLOS itself.
Judge Kittichaisaree thanked Professor Attard for his warm welcome and invitation to lecture at IMLI. In his lecture, Judge Kittichaisaree explained that when talking about legality of enforcement at sea, four issues will be considered. These he said include the compatibility of the national law of the State with international law, the maritime zone in which enforcement is being carried out, the context of the activities and the rules of engagement. To elaborate on these issues, Judge Kittichaisaree used the four cases referred to above which are The M/V "SAIGA" (No. 2) Case (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines v. Guinea); The M/V "Virginia G" Case (Panama/Guinea-Bissau); The M/V "Norstar" Case (Panama v. Italy) and The “Enrica Lexie” Incident (Italy v. India).

Judge Kittichaisaree has held numerous eminent positions and served in several roles within the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Thailand from September 1986 to September 2017. He was Chief Legal Counsel in maritime delimitation negotiations, Director of the Division of Legal Affairs in the Department of Treaties and Legal Affairs, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Treaties and Legal Affairs, Ambassador responsible for international legal issues and counter-international terrorism, and Director-General of the Department of International Organizations. Judge Kittichaisaree has been Thailand’s Ambassador to Iran, Australia, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, the Russian Federation, Armenia, Belarus, Moldova and Uzbekistan. He has been head or part of the delegation to several negotiations and meetings, including the fisheries negotiations with Malaysia, the
fisheries co-operation negotiation with Vietnam, UN Environment Programme’s Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt a Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities and was President of the 25th Meeting of States Parties to the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Judge Kittichaisaree has also been a Visiting Professor to several universities including the University of New South Wales School of Law in Sydney, the National University of Singapore, and Duke University’s Asia-America Institute in Transnational Law. He is also Visiting Research Consultant and Visiting Research Fellow at several universities. He is a regular speaker and panellist at international seminars, conferences, and workshops on the law of the sea, Conciliator under Annex V to UNCLOS, Arbitrator under Annex VII also to UNCLOS.

He is a member of several distinguished bodies. His publications include The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (Oxford University Press 2021).

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For further information please contact Ms. Ramat Jalloh (Editor, IMLI e-News) at publications@imli.org