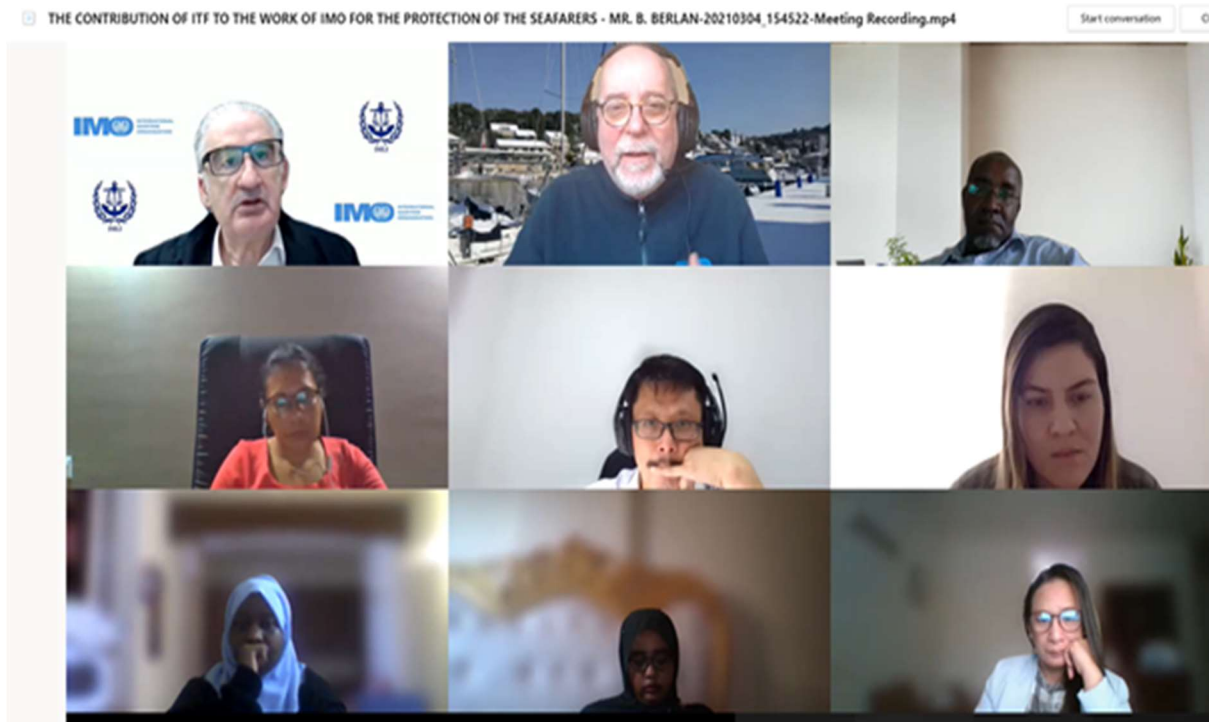


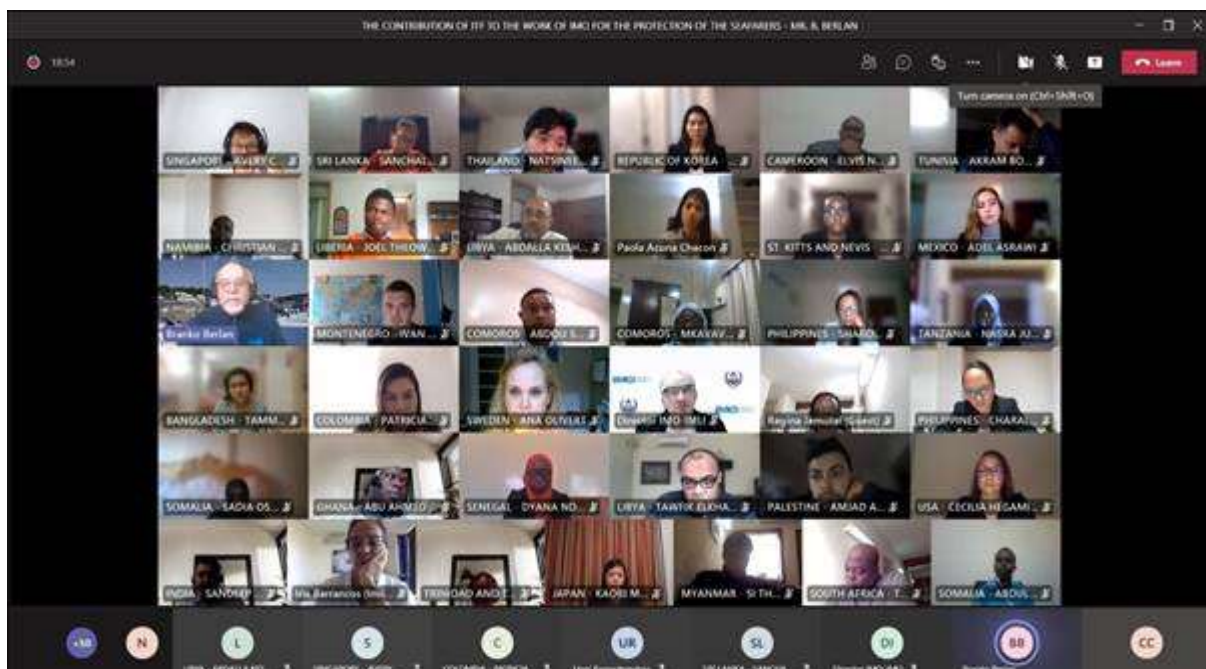
ITF ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVE TO IMO LECTURES AT IMLI

Mr. Branko Berlan (International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) Accredited Representative to IMO) delivered on 4 March 2020, an online lecture on '*The Contribution of ITF to the Work of IMO for the Protection of the Seafarers*' to the IMLI Class of 2020-2021. Mr. Berlan was introduced to the participants by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) who described him as an ardent supporter of the Institute.



Mr. Berlan commenced his lecture by thanking all at IMLI, particularly Professor Attard, for recognizing the importance of the work of ITF at IMO, particularly during the pandemic. He noted that, despite the fact that 90% of world trade is carried by sea on vessels with seafarers, yet this group of people is always sadly forgotten or neglected. He then discussed the ITF work within the IMO and informed the student that the IIT is not only concerned with seafarers alone, but the whole maritime sector. In his discussions, Mr. Berlan mentioned the work of the ITF

with the various committees in IMO. He discussed the five prioritised projects of the ITF with the Maritime Safety Committee, which includes the human element, manning, ships automation, the revision of the STCW and the STCW-F and environmental issues as far as they affect the seafarer's safety. In this respect, Mr. Berlan also discussed fair treatment of seafarers in the event of a maritime accident. His lecture was very well received by students and participants who engaged actively in the discussions demonstrating a great interest in the work of ITF and the welfare of the seafarers.



Mr. Berlan has a Degree in Maritime Studies, Maritime Engineer department. He was a seafarer for 15 years, finishing his seafaring career as Chief Engineer. He was Assistant General Secretary of the Seafarers' Union of Croatia from 1991 until 2013 and he represented seafarers of Croatia at the IMO and ILO. He joined the ITF in May 2013.

As the ITF accredited representative to the IMO, following the vision of the ITF, Mr. Berlan recognises that as the ITF has been demonstrating at the IMO, the ITF has an immense voice for the seafarers and all workers in the maritime industry. He looks forward to enhancing the influence of the ITF in shaping maritime policies. The priorities of the ITF will be better recognition of roles and importance of all maritime workers and their safety. It is his commitment to also continue pursuing more constructive cooperation with governments and the industry partners.

Further to his role as the ITF Representative to the IMO, Mr. Berlan also has other responsibilities including leading or providing support in any UN, industry, ITF fora that require maritime expertise or in matters pertaining to the general welfare and wellbeing of maritime workers, and undertake all maritime related and technical issues on behalf of the ITF.

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