

The IMO International Maritime Law Institute Official Electronic Newsletter (Vol.18, Issue No.86) 4 May 2021

RENOWNED PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW EXPERT AND SENIOR ARBITRATION COUNSEL LECTURES AT IMLI

The Institute had the pleasure of welcoming online, Professor Tullio Treves (Public International Law Expert and Senior Arbitration Counsel) on 9 April. Professor Treves delivered a lecture titled "*Institutional Judicial Bodies Vs Ad Hoc Arbitration*." He was introduced by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI), who encouraged the participants to pay close attention to the lecture due to its importance to States in their decision to take action in dispute settlement.



Professor Tullio Treves (Public International Law Expert and Senior Arbitration Counsel)

In commencing his lecture, Professor Treves said that this subject area is a key issue for the legal adviser and a broader subject for reflection. He based his lecture on the rules concerning compulsory jurisdiction under UNCLOS. He noted that the said Convention has a detailed and

incisive mechanism for the settlement of disputes, which distinguishes it from many other conventions concerning the codification of international law. This, he said, is enshrined in Part XV of the Convention. Professor Treves stated that the main characteristic of this system is that, with some limitations and exceptions, it is a compulsory mechanism. He explained this by stating that when a State is involved in a dispute concerning the interpretation and application of UNCLOS or has issues against another State which is also a party to the Convention, then it can trigger a judicial dispute settlement without having to obtain the ad hoc approval of the other side. Professor Treves noted that adopting part XV during UNCLOS III was a colossal step made by the conference. He went on to give a detailed analysis of the system which he refers to as well synthesized in article 286 of the Convention.



Professor Treves has represented governments in numerous international maritime and investment disputes and is a former Judge of ITLOS and arbitrator in state-to-state disputes. He has acted before the ICJ as Counsel for Finland in the Great Belt case, for Peru in the maritime dispute with Chile and for the United Arab Emirates in a case against Qatar. Professor Treves has acted as counsel for France in the arbitration with Canada on the delimitation of maritime zones in the area of Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon, and for the Russian Federation in two law of the sea arbitrations against Ukraine.

He has sat as arbitrator in the Tribunal in the Bangladesh v. India case, as president of the Arbitration Tribunal in a case between Timor Leste and Australia and as arbitrator in the law of the sea case between Malta and Sao Tomé and Principe.

Professor Treves has experience as a consultant to various governments and international organizations and as chairman of an Arbitration Tribunal at the Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration.



Professor Treves served as a Judge at the Tribunal from 1996 to 2011. He has subsequently twice sat in the Tribunal as an ad hoc judge chosen by Panama in the Virginius case, and by Italy in the Norstar case. Within the Tribunal, he was the President of the Seabed Disputes Chamber and involved in the 2011 delivery proceedings of an advisory opinion upon the request of the Council of the International Seabed Authority. He also chaired the Tribunal's Committee of the whole for the drafting of the Rules of the Tribunal.

Professor Treves was the legal adviser to the Permanent Mission of Italy at the United Nations in New York. In this capacity, he chaired various working groups of the Sixth Committee and was a member of the Italian delegation to the Security Council.

He is the author of numerous books and articles on many aspects of public and private international law and fluent in several languages.

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