JUDGE LIESBETH LIJNZAAD LECTURES AT IMLI

Judge Liesbeth Lijnzaad (Judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)), delivered a lecture on 16 April to the IMLI Class of 2020-2021 entitled ‘Provisional Measures.’ Judge Lijnzaad was welcomed by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI), who noted that Judge Lijnzaad is an eminent international lawyer, who prior to her becoming a judge at ITLOS, combined a very distinguished diplomatic and academic career. The lecture of Judge Lijnzaad forms part of the IMLI Specialized Course on Peaceful Settlement of Maritime Disputes and is being attended by 103 participants from 68 countries.

Judge Liesbeth Lijnzaad thanked Professor Attard for his warm welcome. She commenced her lecture by stating the two types of speedy proceedings at the Tribunal, which are Prompt Release and
Provisional Measures. Judge Lijnzaad explained the aim of Provisional Measures, stating that it is used for the protection of an interest, while the main case is being adjudicated or will be adjudicated. She further explained its applicable law, including article 290 of UNCLOS, article 25 of the Statute of the Tribunal and article 89 to 95 of the Tribunal’s Rules. She noted that Provisional Measures procedure at the Tribunal builds on the practice of the ICJ and that they are an important part of the Tribunal’s case. Judge Lijnzaad stated that there are two types of Provisional Measures and gave a detailed explanation of them and how they function by using article 290 of the UNCLOS.

Judge Lijnzaad was lecturer at Limburg University, Maastricht and Deputy Head of the International Law Division. She has attended many negotiations, amongst which are the UN Agreement on Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent, ISA Code on prospecting and exploration for poly-metallic nodules, maritime boundary negotiations, Germany/Netherlands, Saint Kitts and Nevis/Netherlands, France/Netherlands and Amendments to the IMO Convention and Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against Safety of Maritime Navigation (SUA). She was Chair of the European Union Working Party on the Law of the Sea (COMAR) on behalf of Luxemburg and the Netherlands and President of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority. Judge Lijnzaad was also Chair of the Legal Working Group International Commission for the International Tracing Service and Legal Adviser and Head
of the International Law Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands. Judge Lijnzaad was also President of the Council of International Seabed Authority, Chair of Strategic Study Group, International Commission for the International Tracing Service and Co-Chair, UN General Assembly Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction. She is an Arbitrator under Annex VII of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

She is a Member of several prestigious bodies and is active in academic writings with numerous impressive publications in her name.

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