



**32ND ANNUAL
GRADUATION
CEREMONY
COMMEMORATIVE
BROCHURE**

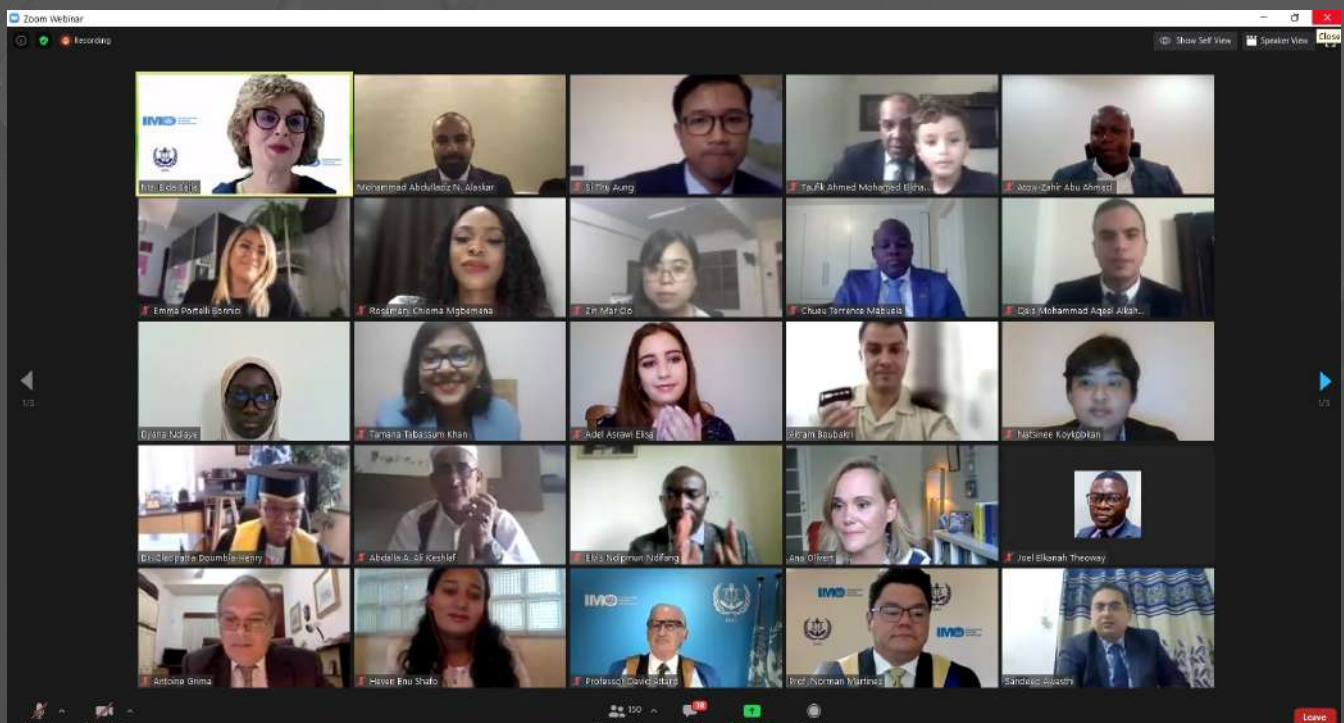
THE IMLI 32ND ANNUAL GRADUATION CEREMONY

The IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) held its 32nd annual Graduation Ceremony on Friday, 3 September 2021. The virtual Ceremony marked the successful completion of a very intensive year of studies in all the areas of the Institute's programmes, including law of the sea, shipping law, marine environmental law, maritime safety, maritime security law, and maritime legislation drafting.

Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) gave the welcoming address, while Mr. Kitack Lim (Secretary-General, IMO and Chairman, IMLI Governing Board) delivered the graduation address. This was followed by a graduation video message by Dr. Yohei Sasakawa, (Chairman, The Nippon Foundation) and a congratulatory address by Dr. Cleopatra Dombia-Henry (President, WMU). The valedictory address was delivered by Ms. Chioma Rosemary Mgbemena (Nigeria), on behalf of the IMLI Class of 2020-2021.

The occasion was attended by over 150 personalities from over 55 countries, including Members of the Government of Malta, Permanent Representatives of States to IMO, and Members of the IMLI Governing Board.

During the Graduation Ceremony, fifty-two students from 38 countries graduated from the Institute's programmes. Thirty-two students were awarded the Degree of Master of Laws (LL.M.) in International Maritime Law, whilst thirteen students received a Degree of Master of Humanities (M.Hum.) in International Maritime Legislation. One student was awarded the joint Degree of Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) in International Maritime Law and Ocean Policy. Three students were awarded the Degree of Magister Juris (M.Jur.) in International Maritime Law and one student graduated with the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in International Maritime Law. In addition, two students were awarded an Advanced Diploma in International Maritime Law.



PROGRAMME

Welcome Address:

Professor David J. Attard
Director, IMLI

Graduation Address:

Mr. Kitack Lim, Secretary-General,
IMO, and Chairman, IMLI
Governing Board

Graduation Message:

Dr. Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman,
The Nippon Foundation

Congratulatory address:

Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry
President, WMU

Valedictory Address:

Ms. Chioma Rosemary Mgbemena,
on behalf of the students

Presentation of Candidates:

Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja
Senior Lecturer, IMLI

Conferment of Degrees:

Professor David J. Attard

Presentation of Prizes:

Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja



GRADUATION ADDRESS FROM THE IMO SECRETARY- GENERAL AND CHAIRMAN OF THE IMLI GOVERNING BOARD

MR. KITACK LIM
SECRETARY-GENERAL, IMO
CHAIRMAN, IMLI GOVERNING BOARD

Excellencies,
Honourable Minister
Distinguished Guests
Ladies and gentlemen,

Today, we celebrate the success of 52 graduands. They have worked hard, and we are delighted to share with them the joy of their accomplishment.

I feel on such an important occasion it is appropriate to recall that IMLI was the first UN Institution to reserve in its 1988 Statute, 50% of its places to deserving women candidates. This provision has worked and today hundreds of women lawyers have become maritime law specialists contributing to their country's maritime and legislative sectors. Indeed, this year's class is a reflection of this success wherein the majority of participants are female lawyers.

Dear Graduands,

It is my great pleasure to congratulate you on your meritorious achievements. Today's Graduation Ceremony marks the culmination of an intensive academic programme which required you to show perseverance, determination and passion for learning, to prepare you to contribute meaningfully to the maritime sector of your country.

You have successfully overcome the unprecedented challenges you, your lecturers and mentors had to face in this era of the COVID-19 pandemic while you undertook your studies.

You are now embarking on a new journey which is supported by the vast knowledge you have acquired over the past months and the wonderful memories of shared experiences, exchange of ideas and setting up of professional goals for a better and more sustainable future.

You have been equipped with the necessary skills to contribute effectively to the realization of the International Maritime Organization's goals. You had the privilege of being trained at IMLI - a centre of excellence for the training of specialists in international maritime law and for the dissemination of knowledge and expertise in the field. IMLI capacity building is the cornerstone in the International Maritime Organization's efforts to encourage States to implement and enforce their international obligations through national laws.

I see a bright future for our maritime community and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations in the interest of our planet. My advice however is for you to never rest on your laurels.

2021 marked a decade since the promulgation of the first set of IMO mandatory rules to improve the energy efficiency of new-build ships. These measures which will set shipping on a pathway to decarbonization thus contributing to the fight against climate change, need to be duly implemented in national legislation. As is the case with many other IMO instruments, implementation and enforcement measures are the responsibility of States.

Therefore, apply the lessons learnt at the Institute to develop your national legislative framework which is responsive to the needs of the maritime sector and contributes to the realization of our common goal of sustainable shipping for a sustainable planet.

As I welcome today's graduands to the formidable global network of the IMLI Alumni, I would like to take a moment and express my heartfelt appreciation to all organizations and institutions which provide support and assistance to the Institute to achieve its global mission. I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to the Government of Malta which has hosted IMLI since its inception and supported it throughout its existence.

To Professor David Attard and the dedicated IMLI academic and administrative staff, I wish to thank you for your hard work and relentless efforts to make the Institute rise to the highest standards.

In this regard, I wish to applaud this year's IMLI initiative to organize virtual specialized courses. These courses, which have attracted the appreciation and support of Member States from around the world, have led to hundreds of Government officials learning about various aspects of international maritime law. These programmes, which I trust will continue, have given IMLI a global outreach and further attracted Member States interested in IMLI's work.



Dear Graduands,

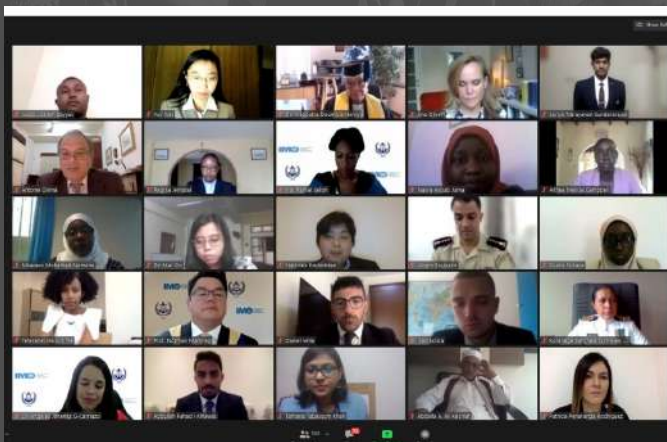
As you turn a new page in the book of your professional achievements, remember your first day of studies at IMLI in which you pledged to serve the rule of international maritime law.

You will now form part of the wider IMO community. I am confident you will continue flying high the IMLI flag and that you advance further the goals of sound ocean governance, protection of the marine environment, safe and secure shipping and decent working conditions for our seafarers.

The Institute has equipped you with the knowledge and skills you need to use for the benefit of all of us. Apply your newly acquired skills when advising or representing your country and when negotiating with your international partners. Dedicate yourselves not only to do well, but to do good. Above all, do not forget that we should all work towards delivering healthy and sustainable oceans to future generations.

I wish you all the best in your future endeavours and look forward to meeting you at IMO in the future.

Thank you.



GRADUATING CLASS ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-2021



MS. TAMANNA TABASSUM KHAN
(BANGLADESH)



MS. PATRICIA PEÑARANDA RODRIGUEZ
(COLOMBIA)



MS. NOMANE MOHAMED MKAVAVO
(COMOROS)



MR. ABDOU SALAM ZAYYAS
(COMOROS)



MS. TEFESEHET HAILU SIME
(ETHIOPIA)



MR. ATOW-ZAHIR ABU AHMED
(GHANA)



MR. SANDEEP AWASTHI
(INDIA)



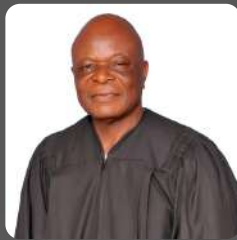
MR. SURIYA NARAYANAN SUNDARARAJAN
(INDIA)



MR. QAIS MOHAMMAD A. ALKHALDEH
(JORDAN)



MS. REGINA JEMUTAI
(KENYA)



MR. CHARLES A. GONO
(LIBERIA)



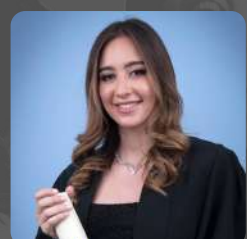
MR. JOEL ELKANAH THEOWAY
(LIBERIA)



MS. EMMA PORTELLI BONNICI
(MALTA)



MR. DANIEL VELLA
(MALTA)



MS. ADEL ASRAWI ELIAS
(MEXICO)



MR. IVAN BOTICA
(MONTENEGRO)



MR. SI THU AUNG
(MYANMAR)



MR. CHRISTIAAN S. FIKUNAWA
(NAMIBIA)



MR. AMJAD MOWAFAQ ABU LAFI
(PALESTINE)



MR. NICOLAS ADRIAN PRONO BRITZ
(PARAGUAY)



MS. SHARON DE CHAVEZ-ALEDO
(THE PHILIPPINES)



LT. CHARALEJ B. GUZMAN
(THE PHILIPPINES)



MR. MOHAMMAD ABDULLAZIZ N. ALASKAR
(SAUDI ARABIA)



MR. ABDULLAH FAHAD ALHAWAS
(SAUDI ARABIA)



MS. DYANA NDIAYE
(SENEGAL)



MR. AVERY SOON YONG CHONG
(SINGAPORE)



MR. CHUEU TERENCE MABUELA
(SOUTH AFRICA)



LT. CDR. KURANAGE SANCHALA N. PERERA
(SRI LANKA)



MS. ALTHEA MELICIA CAMPBELL
(ST. KITTS AND NEVIS)



MS. NASRA AYOUB JUMA
(THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA)



MS. PETAL BRIGGETA ALEXANDER
(TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO)



DR. CECILIA HEGAMIN-YOUNGER
(THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

MASTER OF LAWS (LL.M.) IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME
LAW



MR. ELVIS NDIPMUN NDIFANG
(CAMEROON)



MS. YUN WEI
(CHINA)



MR. ERNEST NYANKUNGW KASISI
(DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO)



MS. HEVEN ENU SHAFU
(ETHIOPIA)



MS. KAORI MAKI
(JAPAN)



MR. TAWFIK AHMED M. ELKHALDI
(LIBYA)



MR. ABDALLA A. ALI KESHRAF
(LIBYA)



MS. ZIN MAR OO
(MYANMAR)



MR. ABDULLAHI MOALLIM OMAR BAARE
(SOMALIA)



MS. NAIMA MUHYADIN HERSI
(SOMALIA)



MS. SADIA ABUKAR OSMAN
(SOMALIA)



MS. NATSINEE KOYKOBKAN
(THAILAND)



LT. COL. AKRAM BOUBAKRI
(TUNISIA)

MASTER OF HUMANITIES (M.HUM.) IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LEGISLATION



MS. ROSEMARY CHIOMA MGBEMENA
(NIGERIA)

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY (M.PHIL.) IN INTERNATIONAL
MARITIME LAW AND OCEAN POLICY



MAJOR JOSEPH GATT
(MALTA)



MS. ANA OLIVERT AMADO
(SWEDEN)

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL
MARITIME LAW



MS. NIVEDITA MALLIGA HOSANEE
(MAURITIUS)



MR. FRANCISCO ANDRÉ GUTIÉRREZ
FIGUEROA
(PERU)



MS. VIVIAN RADHA RAMBARATH-PARASRAM
(TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO)

MAGISTER JURIS (M.JUR.) IN INTERNATIONAL
MARITIME LAW



DR. ANTHONY GRIMA
(MALTA)

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PH.D.) IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW

PRIZE WINNERS

IMO Secretary-General's Prize for Best Dissertation
Mr. Si Thu Aung (Myanmar)

Professor Walter Müller Prize for the Best Maritime Legislation Drafting Project
Ms. Althea Campbell (St. Kitts and Nevis)

Professor David Attard Prize for Best Performance in the Law of the Sea
Mr. Chong Soon Yong Avery (Singapore)

Transport Malta Prize for Best Performance in Shipping Law
Lt. Col. Akram Boubakri (Tunisia)

Sasakawa Prize for the Best Performing Nippon Foundation Scholar
Ms. Petal Briggeta Alexander (Trinidad and Tobago)

LRF Prize for the Best Performing Lloyd's Register Foundation Scholar
Ms. Nasra Ayoub Juma (the United Republic of Tanzania)

Dr. Kofi Mbiah's Prize for the Best Performing African Scholar
Ms. Tefesehet Hailu Sime (Ethiopia)

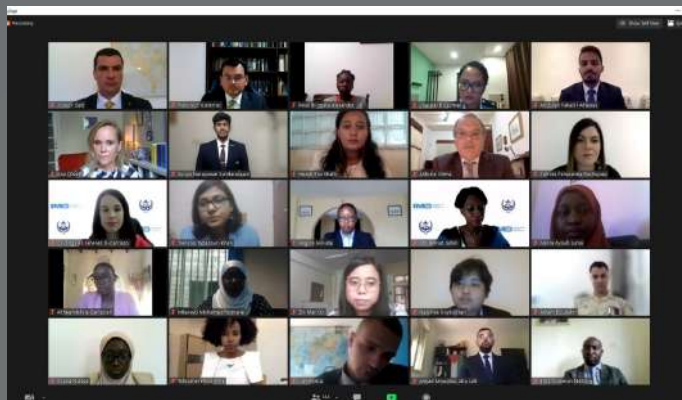
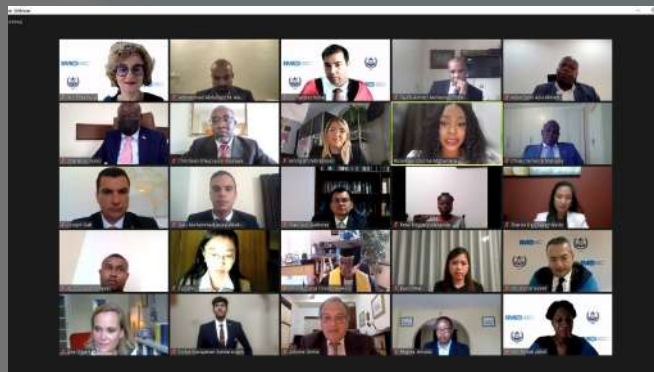
ITF Seafarers' Trust Prize on Seafarer's Law
Ms. Chioma Rosemary Mgbemena (Nigeria)

Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Malta Branch Prize for Best Performance in Maritime Transport Law
Ms. Natsinee Koykobkan (Thailand)

REMPEC Marine Environment Law Prize
Ms. Sharon de Chavez-Aledo (the Philippines)

The CMI Prize for Best Overall Performance
Mr. Amjad Mowafaq Abu Lafi (Palestine)

THE IMLI 32ND GRADUATION CEREMONY



MESSAGES FROM GRADUATES

"I am extremely honoured to have been one of the IMLI students embarking on this unique adventure of navigating through the seas of international maritime law, under the direction of Prof. Attard. IMLI transforms you, gives you great solidity, and elevates your understanding of maritime law. I am extremely satisfied to have enrolled in the Advance Diploma including short, specialized courses, and I recommend it to senior professionals and others that do not necessarily seek a degree, but the best training and some networking with the finest professionals in international maritime law."

Ms. Ana OLIVERT AMADO
(Sweden)



"A wonderful, unique and fruitful experience."

Mr. Abdullah Fahad ALHAWAS
(Saudi Arabia)



"The course was enriching and a life changing experience for me. I am now empowered and confident to play my part in whatever capacity to ensure my country, continent and the world adopt and comply with IMO legal instruments, *inter alia*, to protect ocean biodiversity and ecosystems, seafarers, and property at sea. In general, I have acquired a new perspective on life."

Mr. Christiaan S. FIKUNAWA
(Namibia)



"It has been an honour for me to be a student at IMLI. The experience of studying at IMLI in Malta has been a great opportunity for me even though the classes were online because of the COVID-19 pandemic. I am grateful for the valuable knowledge and experiences that I got from the Institute. I am also thankful for the kindness of the Director of IMLI, Professor David Attard, the lecturers, IMLI staff, and the students of the 2020-2021 academic year. IMLI has been a home for me. Long-live IMLI!!!"

Ms. Nomane Mohamed MKAVAVO
(Comoros)



More information regarding IMLI's programmes and courses is available on the IMLI website:
<https://www.imli.org/content/programmes-and-courses>

For information on admissions, please contact:
admissions@imli.org