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IMLI LIGHTS BLUE TO CELEBRATE WORLD MARITIME DAY AND HONOUR SEAFARERS

In selecting World Maritime Day Theme for the year 2021, IMO focused on seafarers dedicating this year to prompt action to safeguard their rights, especially in these challenging times. The outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic had a detrimental impact on this vital workforce which for over a year has faced unprecedented hardship, leading to a crew change crisis which threatens the safety and sustainability of shipping.



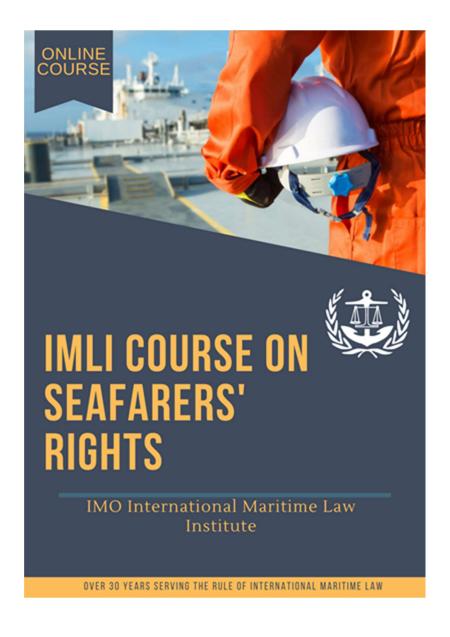
In launching World Maritime Day Theme 2021, the IMO Secretary-General noted that "At IMO, seafarers have always been at the centre of all our work - be it in the area of safety, maritime security, or environmental protection.

However, this year, we want to shine a light on the significance of the human element to the safety of life on board ships and the importance of ensuring an appropriately trained and qualified future workforce, ready to meet the challenges and opportunities of digitalization and

automation. We will also place a special focus on seafarers' well-being, an area highlighted by the plight of seafarers during the COVID-pandemic."

The Institute joins the international maritime community in celebrating World Maritime Day and echoing the deep appreciation to over 1.5 million dedicated men and women who, through their tireless work, contribute to make the shipping sector vibrant and sustainable.

Since its inception, IMLI has been in the vanguard in raising awareness on the importance of maritime labour law standards and seafarers' rights. The Institute organizes annually a dedicated IMLI Course on Seafarers' Rights which reiterates its commitment to the protection of seafarers in line with the international efforts spearheaded by the IMO and ILO.



The Institute's Director, Professor David Attard, observed that "World Maritime Day Theme "Seafarers: at the core of shipping's future", demonstrates the commitment of IMO, as a global standard-setting organization in matters of shipping, to work towards a sustainable future for our planet. Seafarers are indispensable in the realization of this goal and that is why at IMLI, as a centre of education in international maritime law, their rights matter. We will continue raising awareness on the importance of high standards of training and education as well as safe and decent working conditions for the seafarers worldwide".

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