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IMLI DIRECTOR REPORTS TO THE IMO COUNCIL DURING ITS 128TH SESSION

The 128th Session of the Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) was held from Monday, 28 November 2022 to Friday, 2 December 2022 at the IMO Headquarters in London. During the Session, Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) reported to the Council in his capacity as IMLI Director.





Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) reporting to the Council

In his opening statement, Professor Martínez expressed how honoured he was to be attending the session in his new capacity as IMLI Director. He assured the Council that IMLI's commitment to IMO's goals will continue to be the Institute's primary focus even whilst striving to strengthen its relationship with the maritime community and expanding further its outreach.

Professor Martínez then proceeded to report on the academic activities of the Institute for the year 2021. The Director informed the Council that despite the challenges of the global pandemic, the Institute quickly adjusted its academic activities to a hybrid mode. This ensured that 53 students graduated from the Institute's programmes in 2021. The Director was pleased to inform the Council that IMLI's global network has reached over 1,000 alumni hailing from 148 States and Territories worldwide.

The Director in his report recalled the Institute's long-standing policy that 50% of the places in its programmes are reserved for suitably qualified women candidates. He was very pleased to report that 51% of the 2021 enrollment in the Institute's Master's programmes were female professionals. Professor Martínez also reported on IMLI's support to the IMO Gender Quality network (IMOGen) by referencing the establishment of the IMOGen Women on Board mentorship pogramme at IMLI.



IMLI Graduates present at IMO during the Council Session together with the IMLI Director.

L-R: Mr. Ibrahim El-Diwany (Egypt, 2009), Mr. Watchara Chiemanukulkit (Thailand, 2018), Mr. Sipho Mbatha (South Africa, 2008), Ms. Nancy Karigithu (Kenya, 1994/Member, IMLI Governing Board), Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), Ms. Miatta-Fatima Kromah (Liberia, 2022), Mr. Abdulmumuni Dirisu (Nigeria, 2007), Ms. Azara Prempeh (Ghana, 2000), Ms. Margaret Ansumana (Liberia, 1998), and Ms. Adel Asrawi (Mexico, 2021) The Director informed the Council that IMLI's contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals has been highlighted through the recognition of the Institute's important work in the Global Maritime Community by the United Nations General Assembly for the 14th consecutive year.

In conclusion, the Director thanked all the Institute's Donors and Governments, especially the host Government of Malta, which have and continue to support the Institute so that it continues to render first-class education in international maritime law.



IMLI Graduates present at IMO during the Council Session together with the IMLI Director.

L-R: Mr. Sipho Mbatha (South Africa, 2008), Mr. Abdulmumuni Dirisu (Nigeria, 2007), Dr. Dorota Lost-Sieminska (Poland, 2006), Ms. Raya Said Mohamed Salim (Kenya, 2020), Ms. Adel Asrawi (Mexico, 2021), Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), Ms. Nancy Karigithu (Kenya, 1994/Member, IMLI Governing Board), Ms. Azara Prempeh (Ghana, 2000), Ms. Adriana Carbajal Tito (Peru, 2014), and Mr. Watchara Chiemanukulkit (Thailand, 2018)

Following the Director's intervention, the Maltese delegation thanked Professor Martínez for the report on IMLI's work. They expressed their pleasure at learning that, yet again, IMLI has continued with its success, its effectiveness, and delivery of valuable contribution, even during a very eventful year during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The delegation extended their deep appreciation for the "excellent work" of the former Director, Professor David Attard, for which he was awarded the IMO International Maritime Prize.

"*Malta is proud of its close association with IMLI*", the delegation said and went on to congratulate the Institute for the excellence and the consistency with which it pursues its mission. The delegation concluded by stating that they look forward to further developing their cooperation with the new Director of IMLI and strengthening their support to the Institute in the future.

IMLI FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT IMO HEADQUARTERS IN LONDON

The IMLI Financial and Human Resources Committee (FINCOM) met on Friday 2 December 2022 at the IMO Headquarters in London. The meeting was attended by Mr. Jim Harrison, Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez, Professor Dr. Philippe Boisson, Dr. Reto Düerler and Mr. Xiaojie Zhang.



The IMLI Financial and Human Resources Committee (FINCOM) L-R: Dr. Reto Düerler, Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez, Mr. Jim Harrison, Dr. Philippe Boisson, and Mr. Xiaojie Zhang

Mr. Jim Harrison presided over the meeting in his capacity as the Chairman of the Committee. He welcomed the Members and congratulated Professor Martínez, for his recent appointment as IMLI Director. Mr. Harrison assured Professor Martínez of the Committee's unreserved support in ensuring that the Institute continues to deliver its capacity-building mission in a sustainable manner.

The meeting is one of the two meetings held annually by FINCOM to review the financial, administrative, and personnel issues of the Institute. The members of FINCOM are appointed by the Governing Board. The Committee's role is to assist the Governing Board and the Director on the funding and finances of the Institute and on administrative matters, including personnel.

IMLI LECTURER PARTICIPATES AS SPEAKER IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKIYE

Ms. Ramat Jalloh (Lecturer in International Maritime Law, IMLI) participated as Speaker in the International Maritime Labour Law Conference which took place on 25 November, 2022 in Istanbul. The title of Ms. Jalloh's presentation was "A comprehensive worldwide protection of the rights of seafarers: The Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006) and the need for effective implementation into national law."

The Conference organized by Ankara was University National Center for the Sea and Maritime Law (DEHUKAM) in cooperation with the Turkey Seafarers Union and Istanbul & Marmara, Aegean, Mediterranean, Black Sea Regions Chamber of Shipping. The Conference covered the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 as amended as well as the importance of harmonization of Turkish law and domestic labour law with the Convention. Ms. Jalloh was part of the Panel which presented on "The Evaluation of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended", moderated by Professor Dr. XXX Ademuni-Odeke (Faculty Member of Ankara University Law School/Senior Researcher of Ankara University National Center for the Sea and Maritime Law (DEHUKAM)).



Ms. Ramat Jalloh (Lecturer in International Maritime Law, IMLI) delivering her presentation during the Conference



L-R Ms. Ramat Jalloh (Lecturer in International Maritime Law, IMLI), Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry (President of the World Maritime University (WMU)), Professor Dr. XXX Ademuni-Odeke (Member of Faculty, Ankara University Law School/Senior Researcher of Ankara University National Center for the Sea and Maritime Law (DEHUKAM)), and Mr. Jonathan Warring (Senior Legal Assistant, International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF))