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CARGO HANDLING**World Maritime University to be inaugurated this week**

ON 4 July this year one of the most important developments in international shipping will be officially inaugurated — the World Maritime University (WMU) at Malmö in Sweden. It will offer the developing countries their best opportunity so far to close the technological gap between themselves and the traditional maritime countries.

The aim of the World Maritime University is to provide top-level training for senior administrators and other officials from developing countries which is not available in their own countries. Initially, the University will have about 75 students, but ultimately this will increase to a maximum of 150. Most of the students will be on two-year courses leading to the award of a Master of Science degree.

For many developing countries, the creation of a national fleet is a priority, particularly those with a growing overseas trade.

Many of them have turned for help to the International Maritime Organisation, a specialised agency of the United Nations system, which is responsible for promoting maritime safety and preventing pollution from ships.

Further support has been provided by the UNDP which has agreed to provide the WMU with \$800,000 a year. Several IMO Member States and other bodies — such as the Commonwealth — have also offered financial support.

The University will offer two-year courses on maritime administration, maritime safety administration, maritime education, and technical management.