

World Maritime University

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WMU in the News

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IMO opens to all countries

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For those of you with a special day to enjoy and rejoice, the feeling is great indeed for your contribution and services are acknowledged and recognised.

If you are a teacher, there is Teachers Day. Office and factory workers have Labour Day. For members of the Armed Forces, Armed Forces Day is the Day to look forward to.

All these 'days' are a form of recognition and to get recognition is no easy job. Consistent and well-coordinated effort is needed.

International Labour Organization (ILO) is the prime mover behind the now internationally known Labour Day.

As for seafarers and others in the maritime industry, the successful inauguration of the World Maritime Day in 1977 is attributable to their umbrella centre, the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

IMO is a Specialised Agency of the United Nations (UN) established on Mar 17, 1958, as what was then named Inter-

Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO).

Membership to this London-based Organization is open to all states irrespective of whether they are members of the UN or not. As at June this year, with the entry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, it has 126 members. Malaysia joined in 1971.

Enhancement

Charged with the responsibility of promoting in every practicable manner, the enhancement of the safety and efficiency of international shipping operations as well as the prevention of marine pollution from ships, IMO has adopted numerous Conventions, Protocols, Recommendations and Codes of Practices. Among the most widely-known Conventions are those covering the subjects of the safety of life at sea, load lines, tonnage measurements, the prevention of marine pollution from ships, maritime search and rescue and standards of training, certification and watchkeeping for seafarers.

The highest policy-making body of the Organization is its biennial Assembly

which among others determines the principles and rules of procedure of the Organization, elects members of its Council, commends to members for adoption regulations concerning maritime safety and prevention of pollution and approves its budget. Extraordinary Assembly may be convened if one-third of the members give a sixty-day notice to the Secretary General, or at any time deemed necessary by the Council.

The sources of fund for the Organization are contribution from member states, voluntary donations and sale of publications.

As a UN Specialised Agency, defined as an inter-governmental organization linked to the UN by special agreement working in partnership with it in social, scientific and technical fields, the IMO is required to report annually to the UN's Economic and Social Council.

Apart from English the other official working languages of the Organization Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish only English and French are used in working documents.

IMO Sets Up Varsity For Seamen 'N All

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has decided that maritime training is the single most important aspect of the Organization's efforts to improve safety at sea and prevent marine pollution from ships. Therefore it is not surprising to note that training has been selected for the second time as the theme for this year's World Maritime Day, the first being in 1980.

In this connection, the establishment of the World Maritime University (WMU) in July last year in Malmo, Sweden represented a significant stride towards achieving the IMO's declared objective.

Intended to train the very people directly involved in putting IMO's technical standards into effect such as surveyors, examiners, technical advisers to Government Ministries, casualty investigators, general maritime administrators, technical managers of shipping companies and maritime teachers, the university is currently accommodating 136 students from 59 countries studying for a two-year course leading to a Master of Science (M.Sc.) Degree.

The teaching staff comprise highly qualified experts from developed maritime nations some of whom are providing their invaluable services without charging any fees. They are expected to contribute sub-

stantially to the objective of imparting maritime education to those from developing maritime nations to bring them at par with leading maritime countries.

In a message to the world maritime community in conjunction with this year's World Maritime Day, the University's Chancellor who is also IMO's Secretary-General Mr. C.P. Srivastava described it as "the apex of a global network."

"This institution provides training facilities which in no way duplicate the training provided at the national and regional maritime training academies".

"In fact the University complements and supplements the work of other institutions," he said.

Sited in a small city of 230,000 the WMU has received generous grants and contributions from various quarters in particular the host nation which is providing a recurring grant of US\$1 million to meet part of the annual running expenditure estimated to be about US\$4 million.

However, Mr Srivastava appealed for more assistance to enable the University to plan its activities appropriately and to function efficiently.

For those of you who are interested to know more about the WMU and its activities, enquiries may be directed to:

**The Rector,
World Maritime University,
Post Office Box No. 500,
Malmo,
SWEDEN.**

MISC Canteen Project: 14 Gotong Royong to Spruce up

Fourteen members of Kelab Sukan MISC including four of its committee members sacrificed their precious rest day on Dec 14 to team up in the true spirit of *gotong royong* to clean up the Club House which would later be converted into a canteen.

Led by Encik Mokhtar Ahmad of Electrical Dept, the volunteers worked for about 10 hours commencing at 10am. A few participants were seen bringing their own equipment from homes.

Tracing how the *gotong royong* idea was first mooted, Encik Mokhtar said: "Management has decided to convert Kelab premises into a canteen and I feel that it would cost a few thousand ringgit to clean up the room before the necessary renovation work could begin.

"It's more than just the saving of money. This is a demonstration of the willingness of MISC employees to work together for the benefit of the company," he added. Encik Mokhtar also thanked the group for their willingness to contribute. The participants were Mustafa Kamal Hj Maugha, Mohd Adnan Jamil, Hamdan Abu Bakr Amiruddin Abd Rahman, Mohd Amr Mohd Shariff, Azizul Mahamud, Ismail A Jalil, Zolkifli Abd Aziz, Rosli Din, A Rahman Abdullah, S. Nekeram, Sh Noordin and Halim Mohd Said.