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Senior personnel from the ten maritime academies which have been established as branches of the World Maritime University attended a seminar at Malmö in October. It was the first seminar ever held for WMU branches.

The ten academies have been established as branches of the University in order to help implement the short specialized courses now being developed by IMO under a technical co-operation programme funded by Norway. These courses supplement the two-year postgraduate study programmes offered by the University.

The availability of short courses at leading maritime institutions around the world is cost-effective and helps make use of regional expertise.

The objectives of the seminar were:
* To develop further communication and co-operation between WMU and the branches by exchanging information, experience, plans and views on short courses.
* To provide senior personnel of the branches with the opportunity to obtain and discuss information on latest and likely future developments in maritime operations and maritime education and training which may influence the future of short courses.
* To identify specific requirements of the branches to ensure effective and successful conduct of short courses.

The participants were welcomed at the University by the Rector, Mr. Eric Nordström and the seminar was opened by Mr. C.P. Srivastava, the Secretary-General of IMO and Chancellor of the University.

Participating

The WMU branches participating in the seminar were the Institut Supérieur Maritime, Bou Ismail, République Démocratique et Populaire Algérienne; Centro de Instrução Almirante Graça Aranha, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Dalian Maritime University, Dalian, People’s Republic of China; Académie des Sciences et Techniques de la Mer, Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire; Alexandria Maritime Transport Academy, Alexandria, Arab Republic of Egypt; Regional Maritime Training Academy, Accra, Ghana; Maritime Training Institute, The Shipping Corporation of India Limited, Powai, Bombay, India; Escuela Nautica Mercante de Tampico, Mexico; Institut supérieur d’études maritimes, Casablanca, Morocco; and the Arab Maritime Transport Academy, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.

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