

World Maritime University

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WMU in the News

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Every ship can gather money for the \$25m target

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Every ship can gather mon

Lloyds List Sept 24/1984

The World Maritime University, set up just 15 months ago in Malmo by the International Maritime Organisation, is a unique centre for training the world's shipping administrators. Its students are usually from developing countries and have already achieved considerable academic and professional success in the maritime industries: most are aged 30 or more. Now, to guarantee its financial independence, it is appealing for a capital fund eventually reaching \$25 million. In his message below for this week's World Maritime Day, Mr C. P. SRIVASTAVA, Secretary-General of IMO

and Chancellor of the university, assesses the crucial importance of the new institution, the achievements already won in its young days and the need for support from the world's maritime community and all those concerned with safe shipping and cleaner seas. That includes Lloyd's List, which offers this page to the success of the appeal and which from the start has recorded the development of the World Maritime University. And now this newspaper will also be telling its readers how the money is rolling in towards the \$25m target.

IN RECENT years shipping has undergone an unprecedented technological revolution. It has become a very complex and sophisticated industry. The safe and efficient operation of modern ships requires highly trained personnel both afloat and ashore.

For a global industry like shipping, it is essential to have global standards also for training and certification. Recognising the vital role of the human element in shipping and the crucial importance of maritime training, the International Maritime Organisation — IMO — has developed the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, which has entered into force this year.

It is in this context that this year the World Maritime Day has been dedicated to the subject of "Global co-operation for the training of maritime personnel."

All member states of the organisation, developed and developing alike, are giving special attention and high priority to the training of maritime personnel. I have had the honour of visiting a large number of merchant marine academies in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America, North America and Europe and everywhere I have found a keen and genuine desire to enhance the level of maritime education on the basis of the technical standards established by our organisation.

Teacher shortage

While the need for modern training facilities and for efficient maritime administration is well recognised and accepted, there are a number of difficulties which need to be overcome. Many developing countries have invested substantial sums of money in the creation of merchant marine academies but they are facing an acute shortage of qualified and professionally trained maritime teachers.

Some institutions have been able to recruit a few expatriates but this has not provided a long term solution. In order to ensure safer shipping and cleaner oceans it is obviously necessary to have an adequate maritime safety administration, staffed by well trained nautical surveyors, engineer surveyors, casualty investigators and other similar personnel. It is only through such senior specialist maritime personnel that maritime administrations can effectively implement the global technical standards and rules and regulations which have been developed by this organisation. Here again, there is a serious problem — that of a shortage of suitably trained national expert



Mr C. P. Srivastava, IMO Secretary General

In the ultimate analysis it is the responsibility of shipowners and shipping companies to ensure that their ships are operated in compliance with rules and regulations relating to safety and pollution prevention. On their part, the shipping companies need competent technical managers and superintendents. The merchant marine administrations of member states need knowledgeable and experienced technical advisers as well as general maritime administrators. Without them it is obviously difficult to formulate and to implement sound maritime policies.

The Assembly of the International Maritime Organisation, which has always accorded the highest priority to maritime training, considered this matter in detail and resolved that a global institution needed to be established to enable member states, particularly developing countries, to train senior specialist maritime personnel. In pursuance of this decision, the International Maritime Organisation has established the World Maritime University at Malmö in Sweden.

Courses of study developed by a team of internationally renowned experts are now being provided at the University to train maritime teachers, surveyors, examiners, technical advisers to government ministries, general maritime administrators and technical managers of shipping companies.

Advanced maritime education is imparted to enhance the professional knowledge of students to the high level required for the efficient discharge of their important future responsibilities, comparable to the level now

addition there is a heavy and very desirable practical bias. A substantial period of time is devoted to practical on-the-job training.

The World Maritime University is receiving every possible encouragement and support from all member states. In particular, the developed maritime nations are helping with the services of highly qualified experts who are lecturing at the university as members of the regular staff or as visiting professors. I am most grateful to the visiting professors, all of them renowned specialists, who are providing their invaluable services without charging any fees. Maritime administrations and other technical institutions are receiving groups of students from the World Maritime University for practical training in diverse ways.

Today, students from as many as 59 countries of all regions of the world are undergoing this unique education and training on the basis of a two-year course designed specially to meet their requirements. On the successful completion of this two-year course, the candidates will be awarded a Master of Science Degree.

In order to enhance the global character of the university and to enable students from all over the world to study together for the benefit of all and for promoting global contacts and future global co-operation, the university is now admitting some students from the developed maritime countries as well.

This new and unique institution, the World Maritime University, is thus already training future maritime policy makers, technical advisers, surveyors, examiners, casualty investigators, technical managers of shipping companies and maritime teachers. What a marvellous resource they will be for making our member states self-reliant in their maritime infrastructure. What a unique group of people these will be for enhancing the efficiency of shipping and port operations throughout the world and for promoting effective and peaceful global co-operation to the benefit of the entire world maritime community.

This, then, is a development of great interest to all maritime states, shipowners and seafarers, shipbuilders and shiprepairers, ship machinery manufacturers and equipment suppliers and indeed to all others who are involved in the world's maritime activities.

As Chancellor of the World Maritime University, I am very gratified that the establishment of the university has been welcomed all over the world. This institution provides training facilities which in no way duplicate the training provided at the national and regional maritime training academies. In fact,

y for the \$25m target



Lloyd's list. Sept 24/1984

Studying at Malmö: the World Maritime University offers two-year courses giving Master of Science degrees in general maritime administration, maritime safety administration, maritime education and technical management of shipping companies. There are also one-year courses and even four-to-six week courses in specific subjects. Taking 75 new students each year, Malmö in its first year attracted people from 59 different countries. Pictured from left: L. Lahyani of Algeria, A. Bennis (Morocco), A. K. B. Beecham (Ghana), A. Rezal (Algeria) and A. H. Gaal (Somalia).

and supplements the work of other institutions. It is the apex of global network which is intended to include all maritime educational institutions which follow IMO's global technical standards.

For the establishment of the World Maritime University the International Maritime Organisation has received extremely generous support from Sweden. The government of Sweden is providing a recurring grant of \$1 million to meet a part of the annual running expenditure at present estimated at about \$4 million. The city of Malmö, a city of 230,000 warmhearted and generous Swedish citizens, has provided the buildings for the university totally free of charge and is, indeed, maintaining these buildings at its own expense.

The United Nations Development Programme is contributing \$800,000 per annum. The government of Norway is donating \$350,000 per annum on a recurring basis. The Commonwealth Secretariat is providing another \$100,000 per annum. The governments of Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Greece, Italy, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Mexico, Republic of Korea and the United Kingdom have provided generous ad hoc donations or fellowships and these are gratefully acknowledged.

In the United States of America, a corporate body called the Friends of the World Maritime University has been established and the government of the United States has

tions made to this body for the benefit of the World Maritime University. This group has already provided magnificent assistance which is greatly appreciated. Other organisations, individual shipowners, private citizens and manufacturers of equipment have made generous ad hoc grants in cash or in kind and these have been most helpful.

Capital fund — an appeal

The World Maritime University needs assured recurring financial support in order to plan its activities appropriately and to function efficiently. The Board of Governors of the World Maritime University, a very distinguished body which includes eminent personages from all parts of the world, has resolved that the university should establish a capital fund with a target of \$25 million to provide sufficient investment income on a recurring basis. This capital fund needs to be built up by voluntary donations.

In the circumstances of today, it would not be practical to expect very large donations from individual governments, organisations or individuals and yet the achievement of the target would not be impossible if every member of the world maritime community were to make a small donation.

The university will play a crucial role in ensuring the safety of lives at sea and in protecting the seafarers' environment. How marvellous and encouraging it would be if

could arrange for some voluntary donations. Every such donation of \$500 or more would be acknowledged by a permanent record at the university, which would give the name of the ship and the names of all donors.

All shipowners and shipping companies would undoubtedly benefit from this new project directly or indirectly. Two renowned shipowners, Mr Chandris and Mr Livanos of Greece, have already contributed \$10,000 each to the capital fund. I am very grateful to them. May I appeal to all shipowners to support the World Maritime University by a donation to the capital fund.

The shipbuilders of the world, who constitute such an important part of the world maritime community, are similarly invited to provide assistance. The manufacturers of equipment and machinery could also help us greatly. So can numerous maritime organisations, port authorities and other individuals.

The World Maritime University is a unique example of global co-operation between the developed and the developing, between the countries of the North and the countries of the South, between the East and the West. It has been described by Norway's Minister for Development Co-operation as "a new platform for peace". With your help this unique institution can be sustained. I appeal to each one of you for donations. These donations may be sent to the Rector of the World Maritime University at Post Office Box Number 500.