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Maritime training academies implement IMO model courses

More and more maritime training academies around the world are implementing the model short courses developed by IMO under a programme financed by Norway. In September the Shipping Corporation of India's Maritime Training Institute in Bombay held a course on Planned Fleet Maintenance and Hull Protection which was organized by IMO and the SCI and sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme.

Other courses in the programme have been held this year at the Dalian Marine College, China and the Regional Maritime Academy, Accra, Ghana.

The Bombay course was opened by the Secretary-General of IMO, Mr. C.P. Srivastava, who said that the courses were being developed to provide maritime training institutions around the world with up-to-date teaching material and to help them prepare training programmes.

There are three groups of model courses. The first consists of short courses, each lasting a few weeks. They are designed for seagoing staff; administrators; port authorities; and shipping company staff. Other model courses last for up to two months and are aimed at key personnel within the maritime sectors of developing countries. The third group is designed to back up the requirements of the Interna-

tional Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeepers for Seafarers, 1978 and will lead to the award of a certificate.

The first titles in the series or short courses have already been published by IMO and more will appear in 1989. They are intended primarily to assist the implementation of conventions, codes and other standards developed by IMO and will help to ensure that a common agreed minimum standard is achieved by all states.

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The Secretary-General said that branches of the World Maritime University – such as the Bombay Institute – are at the centre of the short course implementation programme at both regional and national levels. He said: 'It is expected that further maritime training institutes of developing countries will join the network of World Maritime University branches, provided that they are able to offer suitable national teaching staff, training and accommodation facilities for students undergoing training'.

Mr. Srivastava said that the new IMO International Maritime Academy in Trieste, Italy 'will play an equally crucial role in the implementation of short courses. It is expected that it will implement courses for up to 20 students for periods of up to three months'.