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The World Maritime University

International Maritime Organization

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well as general maritime administrators. Without them it is obviously difficult to formulate and to implement sound maritime policies.

THE WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY

An Institution to Train Senior Specialist Maritime Personnel

The Assembly of the International Maritime Organization, 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 Organization 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.

High Professional Knowledge and Practical Bias in Training

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 obtaining in the leading maritime nations.

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

Worldwide Expertise for High-Level 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.

A Global Student Body

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 cooperation, the University is now admitting some students from the developed maritime countries as well.
A Unique Resource

My friends, 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 ship-repairers, ship machinery manufacturers and equipment suppliers and indeed to all others who are involved in the world’s maritime activities.

The Apex of a Global Training Network

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, the World Maritime University complements and supplements the work of other institutions. It is the apex of a global network which is intended to include all maritime educational institutions which follow IMO’s global technical standards.

GRATITUDE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS ALREADY RECEIVED

For the establishment of the World Maritime University the International Maritime Organization has received extremely generous support from Sweden. The Government of Sweden is providing a recurring grant of US$1 million to meet a part of the annual running expenditure at present estimated at about US$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 US$800,000 per annum. The Government of Norway is donating US$350,000 per annum on a recurring basis. The Commonwealth Secretariat is providing another US$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 granted tax exemption in respect of any donations made to this body for the benefit of the World Maritime University. This group has already provided magnificent assistance which is greatly appreciated. Other organizations, 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.