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Circular : Information regarding the World Maritime University

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28 April 1986

To: All staff

From: Rector

Information regarding the World Maritime University

Apart from the Courses of Study written information regarding the University has been available in the form of a small brochure which is now outdated and the IMO Information dated February 1985.

The budget for 1986 envisages the production of a new attractive information brochure instead of the old, outdated version. In parallel the Management Body has discussed an alternative version to the IMO Information and Professor P.S. Vanchiswar has kindly drafted an alternative which has been accepted by the Management Body and also cleared with the Information Officer of the IMO Mr. Roger Kohn.

This latter version is now available and presented under the WMU crest. It should be used from now onwards instead of the IMO Information dated February 1985. Please inform Eva Hemmestorp if there is a need for additional copies.



Erik Nordström

WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY

WMU

UNIVERSITE MARITIME MONDIALE
UMM



UNIVERSIDAD MARITIMA MUNDIAL
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WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY

The World Maritime University, based in Malmö, Sweden, was officially opened on 4 July 1983 and is one of the most exciting and ambitious projects ever undertaken by the International Maritime Organization.

The primary purpose of the University is to provide advanced training for senior personnel from developing countries who are involved in various maritime activities. Institutional training of this type is a novel concept and there is no comparable institution anywhere else in the world.

The WMU therefore fills an important gap in maritime training and in the years to come will have a marked and beneficial effect on the two areas of greatest concern to the Organization - the improvement of maritime safety and the prevention of marine pollution from ships. IMO recognises that the improvement of personnel standards - on shore and at sea - is crucial if its global standards are to be effectively implemented.

The WMU is the first international effort to provide training opportunities for personnel who have already reached positions of some authority - personnel, in fact, who are responsible for the effective implementation of IMO standards.

In November 1980 a seminar on the implementation of global training standards was held in Malmö, with financial support from SIDA. In connection with the preparation of this seminar, informal exchanges of views and discussions were held between the Representatives of the Swedish Government and the Secretary-General of IMO about possible Swedish support to the IMO Technical Assistance Programme through further co-operation in the field of maritime training.

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As a result of these discussions, at the beginning of the seminar the Minister of Transport of Sweden made an important statement relating to the establishment of an international University of Maritime Sciences and Technology in Sweden designed to provide up-to-date training in various maritime activities for students from developing countries.

The seminar was attended by Delegates from 45 developing countries who concluded the meeting by adopting a Resolution requesting IMO and the United Nations Development Programme - which acts as the main funding Agency within the United Nations system - to support the idea of establishing such an institution. The Resolution referred to the "enormous need" of developing countries for administrators, teachers, surveyors, examiners and other senior personnel, stating that a minimum of one or two years in a suitable academy would be necessary to acquire the extensive training needed.

From this point events moved swiftly. In November 1981, at its Twelfth Session, the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization recognising the crucial importance of maritime training for the development and benefit of international shipping and the protection of the marine environment and marine resources and being concerned about the acute shortage of qualified instructors for staffing maritime academies in developing countries, and the non-availability of the needed numbers of maritime administrators, examiners, surveyors and inspectors, resolved unanimously:-

- (1) to express its sincere gratitude to the Secretary-General IMO for his wise and timely initiative in identifying the critical need for a global high level maritime training institution;
- (2) to request the Secretary-General of IMO to take all further necessary action for the establishment of the World Maritime University;
- (3) to authorise and request the Secretary-General of IMO to take all appropriate and necessary steps in securing the requisite financial support, especially from the UNDP, and
- (4) to appeal to the Administrator of the UNDP to give the highest priority with a view to providing necessary financial support to the World Maritime University.

In pursuance of the above, the Secretary-General took the following actions:

- (1) He initiated discussions with the Government of Sweden. In response, the Government of Sweden agreed to provide a cash contribution to meet one-third of the total running cost of the University subject to a ceiling of USD 1 million per annum in respect of their contribution.

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The Aims of the World Maritime University

These can best be stated by quoting the Charter of the WMU, which says:

"The World Maritime University shall be the international maritime training institution for the training of senior specialist maritime personnel in various aspects of shipping and related fields concerning the improvement of maritime safety, the protection of the marine environment and the efficiency of international shipping, in furtherance of the purposes and objectives of the International Maritime Organization as a Specialised Agency of the United Nations."

In order to achieve the objectives, the Charter says that the University shall:

"provide interested countries, and in particular developing countries, with the most modern and up-to-date facilities for the training of their high-level maritime personnel in all areas of shipping and related maritime activity."

The University will also:

"help to establish an internationally recognised cadre of experts in the major aspects of shipping, including visiting professors, lecturers, consultants and other experts to provide suitable knowledge and assistance to developing countries and other governments as appropriate, on problems relating to maritime safety, efficiency of navigation and the prevention and control of marine pollution".

Finally, says the Charter, the University will:

"help in developing a uniform international system for the training of experts in the maritime field as a means of facilitating and promoting international co-operation in shipping and related maritime activities."

Who will benefit from the World Maritime University?

Virtually everybody involved in shipping can expect to benefit from its establishment.

- * Shipowners will gain because the level of expertise in shipping operations in the developing world will rise steadily as the graduates of the University take up senior posts at their home administrations.
- * Port operations will become more efficient and faster, helping shipowners and shippers to save time and cut costs.
- * Safety standards will rise: the University puts primary emphasis on the proper implementation of IMO and other safety measures.

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While students will spend most of their time at the University, arrangements are made for them to extend their experience by field trips to other cities and institutions within Sweden and many other countries in Europe and elsewhere. These visits are one of the most important features of the whole project and were one reason why Malmö was selected as the site for the University. Visits normally begin during the students' second semester at the University and generally consist of relatively short visit to ports, industries and other organizations involved in shipping. The third semester is mainly dedicated to field (on-the-job) training.

It cannot be emphasised too strongly that the World Maritime University is an essential practical institution designed for students who have already proved their abilities and have been selected for further promotion. While courses include a considerable amount of traditional class-room work, the practical content is much greater and more varied than in normal postgraduate studies.

Board of Governors

The University is supervised by a Board of Governors, the Chairman of which is Mr C P Srivastava, the Secretary-General of IMO. The Members of the Board have been chosen for their pre-eminence in shipping and related areas and have also been chosen to give a wide representation to both developed and developing maritime nations.

Professional Faculty

The academic and administrative work of the University is directed by a Rector, a distinguished person with long experience in maritime affairs. He is assisted by the Vice Rector and eight full-time professors, each responsible for a specific course, and a number of lecturers, coming from all over the world (see page 10).

In addition to the full-time academic staff, the University also benefits from short-term visiting professors and lecturers to cover certain specialised subjects. The University arranges for the services of these specialists who, not available on a long-term basis, can, as eminent persons in their field, provide valuable teaching resource. The combination of full-time staff and visiting lecturers thus allows the University to provide a comprehensive coverage of each subject as well as to give the students access to the leading experts in their respective professions.

It has been a particularly encouraging feature that so many renowned persons in maritime transport have served the University free of charge.

There are also three programme officers, who are involved in organizing the field trips and the practical aspect of the on-the-job training programmes, and aiding the professors and visiting lecturers as well as the students in the conduct of the University's course work.

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responsible positions in their home countries. In addition, four members of the Inaugural Class returned to IMO Headquarters in November 1985 as members of their countries' Delegations to the IMO Assembly.

Financial Support

By careful management, the present annual budget of the World Maritime University has been kept to barely USD 4.4 million - a fraction of what it costs to build even a medium-sized cargo ship today. The money for the University comes entirely from voluntary contributions, both in cash and in kind. Over half the annual budget comes from recurring contributions from: Sweden (USD 1 million); the United Nations Development Programme (USD 800,000); and Norway (USD 350,000) (figures for 1985). Other contributions are in the form of Fellowships. The leading donors were the Federal Republic of Germany (USD 402,000); Commonwealth Secretariat (USD 110,000); Japan (USD 100,000); Sweden (USD 58,000); France (USD 50,000); Denmark (USD 48,000); and the United Kingdom (USD 12,000). Since it is proposed to increase the intake of students to 100 per annum (i.e., a total of 200 students each year), the budget also would need an appropriate increase. In this connection the University is optimistic that the donors would consider favourably the provision of enhanced support.

Other Forms of Support

The donation of a substantial amount of training equipment has been arranged by several donors. Several Organizations have also donated textbooks and other professional literature. One Organization has even donated a mini-bus.

A significant contribution made by several countries, mainly those in the category of developed maritime nations, is in the form of renowned maritime personages, who have agreed to serve as Visiting Professors. Although these Professors serve in their individual capacity and entirely free of charge, it is clear that they receive the necessary encouragement from their employers. The World Maritime University budget pays only for their travel and per diem. Over 150 such Professors are now on the WMU roster.

Maritime Administrations, Shipyards, Classification Societies and other maritime institutions are also playing a very important role in educating the students. Their facilities are now available to the students free of charge during their field trips for on-the-job training. This type of training forms an important and integral part of the training programme of the students. Excellent programmes were drawn up for the visits of students.

The countries which have offered such facilities are Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, UK, USA, USSR and Yugoslavia.

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ACADEMIC STAFF AT WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY - APRIL 1986

NAME:	COUNTRY:	OFFICE:	COURSE AND CLASS:
E Nordström	Sweden	Rector	
G Zade	Federal Republic of Germany	Vice Rector and Professor	Maritime Education and Training (Nautical)
TF Balmer	United Kingdom	Professor	Maritime Safety Administration (Marine Engineering)
P Houssin	France	Professor	Technical Management of Shipping Companies and General Maritime Administration
CE Mathieu	United States of America	Professor	Maritime Education and Training (Marine Engineering)
AA Monsef	Egypt	Professor	General Maritime Administration
K Nomoto	Japan	Professor	Technical Management of Shipping Companies
A Os	Norway	Professor	General Maritime Administration
PS Vanchiswar	India	Professor	Maritime Safety Administration (Nautical)
P Lauridsen	Denmark	Lecturer	
C Moreno	Spain	Lecturer	
H van Walen	The Netherlands	Lecturer	
I Battista	Sweden	English Language Lecturer	
C Cole	United Kingdom	English Language Lecturer	
A Howe	United States of America	English Language Lecturer	
K Mordt	Sweden	English Language Lecturer	
J Horck	Sweden	Programme Officer	
B Wagner	Sweden	Programme Officer	
SA Wernhult	Sweden	Programme Officer	
R Poisson	United States of America	Librarian	