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Circular Letter No.3803
11 January 2018

To: All IMO Member States

Subject: **Nomination of candidates: Master's Programmes at the IMO International Maritime Law Institute, Malta, October 2018 to June 2019**

1 The Secretary-General is pleased to announce that the Master of Laws (LL.M.) programme in International Maritime Law and the Master of Humanities (M.Hum.) programme in International Maritime Legislation will be held at the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) in Malta, from October 2018.

2 The Institute was established in Malta under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) with the generous provision of the premises and related facilities by the Government of Malta.

3 The LL.M. and M.Hum. programmes have been designed as intensive and specialized postgraduate programmes in international maritime law. Whereas the LL.M. programme is open exclusively to graduates in law, the M.Hum. programme is open to candidates holding a degree in any other discipline related to international maritime law. The programmes include in-depth education in international maritime law and training in the drafting of maritime legislation for the incorporation of IMO treaties into national legislation. It has been recognized that the most effective way to assist countries is the training of their nationals, who will subsequently constitute the initial nucleus of a well-established cadre of nationals, competent in international maritime law and in the drafting of maritime legislation, which is of paramount importance for the safe operation and development of the shipping and port industries, and the protection of the marine environment, as well as the achievement of IMO's objectives.

4 Nomination of candidates by the Government concerned (Nominating Authority) should be made using the nomination form, which forms part of the "**Application Package for Nominated Candidates for 2018-2019**" and can be found and downloaded from the Institute's website: <http://www.imli.org/programmes-and-courses/how-apply-1> For the timely selection and notification of candidates, **it is essential that the completed documents, including application and nomination forms, and scholarship form where applicable, reach the Institute by 31 March 2018.** The selection of candidates will take place soon after that deadline. Those selected and the concerned nominating authority will be informed accordingly by the Institute thereafter. Selected candidates will be required to arrive at the Institute prior to the commencement of the academic year, and in case they are unable to do so, for whatever reasons, they should inform the Institute as soon as possible and withdraw their applications.

5 By submitting an application and nominating a person for studies at the Institute, both the applicant and the Nominating Authority are confirming that they are aware of the national legislative and/or administrative requirements which have to be met by selected applicants, prior to travelling to the Institute and commencing their studies; that the aforesaid requirements are met for the duration of their studies; and that they will promptly take the actions required to comply with these requirements.

6 Participation is offered on the widest possible geographical basis, but the number of admissions per country is limited. Accordingly, should nominations be made for two or more candidates from one country, a priority order should be indicated by the Nominating Authority. It should be noted that 50% of admissions are reserved for suitably qualified women candidates.

7 The applicant bears the cost of the application and processing fee of €150 and the Nominating Authority is responsible for the payment of the programme fee, which is €32,500. Where a fellowship is awarded, the Nominating Authority remains responsible for the payment of the Additional Funding Component. Please refer to the Institute's application documentation for further information.

8 Where financial assistance is required, the Scholarship Application form should be accompanied by proof of payment of the scholarship application fee of €200 via bank transfer to the Institute's bank account (all scholarship application fees and bank transfer charges are to be borne by the applicant and are in addition to the application and processing fee).

9 The scholarship application fee covers all administrative costs incurred in approaching potential sponsors and seeking scholarship funding for the candidates, while the application processing fee covers the cost of compiling applicants' files, preparing their individual profiles, keeping them informed and assisting selected candidates until their arrival at the Institute.

10 Detailed information on the programmes syllabi and application procedure can be found in the "Application Package for Nominated Candidates for 2018-2019" in the Institute's website: <http://www.imli.org/programmes-and-courses/how-apply-1>

11 The Secretary-General wishes to take this opportunity to express appreciation to the Government of Malta for its support.
