

F NEWSLETTER Friends of WMU JAPAN

The world is a family, and all humankind are brothers and sisters.

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Special lecture by Mr. Yohei Sasakawa at the IMO

Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of The Nippon Foundation, gave a special lecture entitled, "Maritime Human Resources Development and its Future" on June 21, at the IMO main conference room, responding to the request of Mr. Mitropoulos, Secretary-General of the IMO.

At this special lecture, held during the same term of the IMO Council (94th session), Mr. Sasakawa addressed how The Nippon Foundation has been tackling the promotion of capacity building in the international maritime community and presented his two policy proposals to more than 250 participants, including the Council members.

The following is the text of the presentation made by Mr. Sasakawa.

Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, I am happy to have this opportunity to speak before you today. In October last year, when Secretary-General Mitropoulos visited Japan, he expressed interest in the activities of The Nippon Foundation, in particular, capacity building and maintenance works in the Malacca Straits. I'm honored that he gave me this special opportunity to address you here today.

The oceans benefit people in all countries. The oceans are the "common heritage of mankind." They are our common property, our common responsibility.

But today's oceans face uncountable problems, maritime accidents, piracy and environmental pollution.



Mr. Yohei Sasakawa addressing the IMO Council

These are the problems that challenge not only individual nations but also our global society. In addition, disasters like the recent Sumatran earthquake and tsunami revealed how difficult it is to coordinate responses across national borders. Sadly, UNCLOS' ideal of global coordination has yet to be applied as a solution to these issues.

In order to deal with these problems, we need experienced and capable personnel.

Unfortunately, however, there is a lack of trained personnel to effectively cope with these challenges, especially on an international basis. Given this lack of human resources, I decided to put serious efforts into capacity building of human resources for the international maritime community.

Allow me to tell you some examples of the programs the Nippon Foundation has conducted so far to this end. Over the years, our support for WMU has included

scholarships to over 300 students from 42 countries. Currently, 50 students receive scholarships each year. But I do not think that our offering of scholarships alone will be enough.

After graduation, WMU fellows return to their home country and sometimes they lose contact with alumni.

Ten years ago, the Nippon Foundation established Friends of WMU Japan, an alumni association with an aim to build an international network, connect WMU fellows and enable them to share concerns for ocean and maritime issues.

Whenever I make trips abroad, I spend as much time as possible with WMU alumni. In Malaysia, the Philippines, Myanmar, as well as here in London, I always enjoy meeting with these alumni, who are serving as diplomats, at the IMO, and in other important posts.

When I talk with them, I always feel the

Mr. Yohei Sasakawa was inaugurated Chairman of The Nippon Foundation on July 1, 2005.



Group photo with many graduates of WMU

Special lecture by Mr. Yohei Sasakawa at the IMO

strong sense of shared responsibility in tackling common issues we are facing that led them to build this strong network. I am always impressed with how important their international network has become.

More recently, last year we established three chairs at WMU to help them make the transition to the graduate level. It pleases me to see that WMU, under the leadership of the president, Dr. Laubstein, has recently received the highest evaluation from the European University Association for its remarkable achievement.

Secondly, working with IMO, the Nippon Foundation is supporting a project at International Maritime Law Institute. Recently, developing countries are showing more interest in participating in international conventions and treaties regarding the oceans. However, they are not able to secure a sufficient number of maritime lawyers and maritime administrators.



Mr. Efsthimios Mitropoulos,
Secretary-General of the IMO

We have therefore established a scholarship program at the IMLI to help developing countries train experts on international maritime law.

We are conducting a similar project for a capacity-building partnership with the United Nations. This takes the form of a fellowship for government officials and mid-level professionals from developing countries. Recipients become interns at the Division for Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea in New York. They also do research at participating universities.

They receive advanced education and training in this field. We hope to grant 100 fellowships over a five-year period. All these efforts are being made in response to the emerging global needs that require capable and responsible personnel.

Let me give you another example of our projects.

We found that maritime universities were not standardizing their maritime education and training, causing a discrepancy in skills of seafarers. Such a discrepancy could pose an obstacle to the safety of navigation. In 2000, The Nippon Foundation established the International Association of Maritime University, comprising 45 institutes around the world, to standardize an educational curriculum and improve the safety of navigation. We also encourage them to promote joint research projects among member universities, and enhance their education through the global network.

While we ask IAMU to focus their efforts on the technical skills of seafarers, I think we should not disregard the social aspects of problems of seafarers, such as labor issues, human errors and physical and mental health. To deal with these issues from a perspective of social science, last year we established scholarship programs for the Masters and PhD levels at Cardiff University's Seafarers International Research Centre. These programs are intended to develop experts on global maritime and seafarer's issues from a social science perspective.

Finally, I am proud to inform you of the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans project.

This is a program under which we recently established a chair and scholarship at the University of New Hampshire in the US. Its purpose is to train ocean bathymetrists for work on the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans and other detailed maps of the ocean floor.

I am very grateful that Secretary General Mitropoulos gave me this wonderful opportunity to share with you the projects of the Nippon Foundation in capacity building in the maritime areas.

I strongly believe that the international maritime community requires capable people not only in number but also in quality. I hope our projects are enabling many educational institutions to offer more opportunities and



better education to people who will make contributions to the development of the global maritime community.

There is a saying: It takes one year to grow grain, ten years to grow trees, but people need one hundred years to be fostered.

I am aware that my journey of capacity building will be a very long one, but I would like to continue my efforts. It is indeed very rewarding to see people grow for the benefits of the global community.

Distinguished delegates, I would like to take advantage of this opportunity to make two policy proposals.



Dr. Karl Laubstein, President of the WMU

Firstly, let me focus on the concept of “sustainable development of maritime activities”.

To my understanding, “sustainable development of maritime activities” means an international policy framework that enables us to seek the coexistence of the oceans and mankind. But today, the coexistence is endangered by serious maritime problems in the fields of environment, safety and security. It has been proven that the emission of CO₂ and NO_x from ships have adverse effects on the marine environment.

It is known that substandard vessels endanger the life of the crew while giving damage to coastal nations. In recent years, we are concerned about the problem of pirates who are active across borders in some regions, taking advantage of the geographical limits of the sovereignty of coastal states.

IMO member states are trying to address

these issues. But some of the issues are too difficult to be tackled by unilateral measures of individual governments. The only possible way will be international cooperation, in which the IMO is expected to play a central role.

IMO is equipped with all the expertise on the maritime issues, and rich in experience. I firmly believe that IMO will be able to work together with member states, thus making the measures more effective and enforceable.

The Nippon Foundation is willing to make further contributions when IMO will take more positive initiatives in addressing difficult challenges facing the international maritime community. We are prepared to set sail with you for the sustainable development of maritime activities.

The second proposal is concerned with the safety of the Malacca Straits.

80,000 ships a year traverse the Malacca Straits. This includes container ships connecting Asia and Europe and tankers from the Middle East, bound for Asia. At the stern of these ships fly the flags of Panama, Honduras, Liberia, Greece, and many other countries. Countries from around the world benefit from the Malacca Straits. Malacca are the busiest straits in the world and there are always very high risks of maritime accidents.

To date, the Nippon Foundation has provided financial assistance totaling about 100 million dollars for the emplacement of 45 lighthouses and other navigational aids. Engineers from Japan also visit the Straits to help maintain the navigational aids and train local personnel. We have recently built buoy tender ships for both Indonesia and Malaysia.

Most recently, last June, at my suggestion, my foundation sponsored a conference having high-level representatives from Asian coast guards in Tokyo, to work on cooperative measures against crimes at sea. From then the Asian coast guards began to move toward sharing information and to build cooperative frameworks.



Mr. Yohei Sasakawa,
Chairman of The Nippon Foundation

In this connection, I would like to welcome the initiative of IMO that they will be holding a Malacca Straits Conference in Indonesia this fall. I sincerely expect that the conference will enable the parties concerned to take an important step forward toward safe passage in the Malacca Straits.

When I give thought to the Malacca Straits, I always wonder whether it would be realistic to ensure the safety of navigation in such high-risk areas while depending only upon traditional approaches.

To secure the safety of navigation in high-risk areas, I feel we need to reevaluate our traditional thinking that safety on the seas is always offered free of charge. In high-risk areas where the safety of navigation incurs high costs, we need to examine a new system where the burden should be borne not only by the coastal countries but also by the users.

I hope that IMO will exercise its leadership in examining such a new system, taking advantage of all the expertise and enthusiasm of its member countries.

My father, the founder of our foundation, Ryoichi Sasakawa, had his philosophy: “The world is one family; all mankind are brothers and sisters”. The family of mankind is endowed with a very precious asset, our common heritage of the oceans. I hope that all of us will continue to work together to protect and preserve our common heritage to ensure our coexistence with the oceans. Thank you very much.

International Maritime Information

Report of MSC80 and MEPC53

Naoto Nakagawa

Japan Ship Technology Research Association

The 80th session of Maritime Safety Committee (MSC80)

A number of issues were discussed during MSC80 (at IMO, from May 11-20, 2005), with goal-based new ship construction standards and maritime security being the hot issues through the session. Also, the following amendments to mandatory instruments were adopted by the expanded Maritime Safety Committee, in accordance with articles VIII(b)(iii) and (iv) of the 1974 SOLAS Convention.

Amendments set out in Annex 1 of Resolution MSC.194 (80), MSC.165 (80) and MSC.196 (80)

The adopted amendments to SOLAS chapter II-1 include the provisions relevant to "Structure of ships", "Water level detectors on single hold cargo ships other than bulk carriers" and "Machinery controls". In addition, the amendments to SOLAS chapter XI-1 (Special measures to enhance maritime safety), adding a new Regulation 3-1 (Company and registered owner identification number), will require companies and registered owners of sea-going ships of 100 gross tonnage and upwards to be provided with a unique identification number to be inserted on certificates, documents and the continuous synopsis record. Consequential amendments to regulation XI-1/5 (Continuous Synopsis Record), and to the ISM and ISPS Codes to add the ID numbers in the relevant documentations and certifications were also adopted. These provisions are expected to enter into force on January 1, 2007.



Mr. Tom Allan and the editor
at the delegates' lounge of the IMO



Amendments set out in Annex 2 of Resolution MSC.194 (80)

The amendments to SOLAS chapter II-1 include the revised provisions in parts A, B and B-1 of chapter II-1 and will be applicable to new ships built after the expected entry into force date of January 1, 2009. These revisions intend to harmonize the provisions on subdivision and damage stability for passenger and cargo ships. The new provisions introduce the "probabilistic" method of determining damage stability, which is based on statistical evidence concerning what actually happens when ships collide. This new concept hopes to achieve more realistic results than the previously-used "deterministic" method. Annex 2 of resolution MSC.194 (80) also indicates the consequential amendments to regulation II-2/1, 10 and 20, regulation VI/7, regulation IX/1, regulation XI-1/2, regulation XII-2/1 and Form of Safety Certificate for Passenger Ships.

The resolutions adopted at the committee

The following amendments to mandatory instruments were adopted at the committee.

- MSC.197(80) - ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE GUIDELINES ON THE ENHANCED PROGRAMME OF INSPECTIONS DURING SURVEYS OF BULK CARRIERS AND OIL TANKERS (RESOLUTION A.744(18), AS AMENDED)
- MSC.198(80) - ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE FORMAT AND GUIDELINES FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE CONTINUOUS SYNOPSIS RECORD (CSR)(RESOLUTION A.959(23))
- MSC.199(80) - ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE PROVISION OF

RADIO SERVICES FOR THE GLOBAL MARITIME DISTRESS AND SAFETY SYSTEM (GMDSS) (RESOLUTION A.801(19))

- MSC.200(80) - ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE REVISED RECOMMENDATION ON TESTING OF LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES

This meeting was the last session for Mr. Tom Allan (United Kingdom), the chairman of the MSC, who contributed many years to the committee and SLF subcommittee as a chairman. At the end of the session, all delegates expressed their deep appreciation to Mr. Allan by giving him a standing ovation, making it the most impressive moment of the session. For 2006, Mr. I. Ponomarev (Russian Federation) was elected Chairman of the committee.

The 53rd session of Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC53)

MEPC53 (at IMO, from July 18-22, 2005) discussed harmful aquatic organisms in ballast water and sediments, recycling of ships, particularly sensitive sea areas, condition assessment scheme, fuel oil tank protection, etc. During this session a number of guidelines, amendments to the mandatory instruments, and decisions were adopted.

Especially, the amendments to MARPOL Annex VI were indicated by the following MEPC resolutions.

- MEPC.128(53) - AMENDMENTS TO THE REVISED SURVEY GUIDELINES UNDER THE HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF SURVEY AND CERTIFICATION (RESOLUTION A.948(23)) FOR THE PURPOSE OF MARPOL ANNEX VI
- MEPC.132(53) - AMENDMENTS TO THE ANNEX OF THE PROTOCOL OF 1997 TO AMEND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS, 1973, AS MODIFIED BY THE PROTOCOL OF 1978 RELATING THERETO (AMENDMENTS TO MARPOL ANNEX VI AND THE NOX TECHNICAL CODE)

Alumni News



IMO National Seminar/Workshop on Maritime Security in Chittagong

A S M Shahjahan
(Bangladesh 2000)
Chittagong Port Authority

An IMO National seminar/workshop on maritime security was held in Bangladesh at Chittagong Port Training Institute from April 4-8, 2005. The seminar was jointly organized by IMO (International Maritime Organization) and Ministry of Shipping (MoS), Bangladesh.

The 5-day seminar was chaired by A M M Shahadat Hossain, Chairman, Chittagong Port Authority (CPA), and Shipping Minister Akbar Hossain spoke as chief guest. IMO representatives Gurpreet S. Singhotia and Frank Wall CMG, and Director General of Shipping (Bangladesh) A K M Shafiullah also spoke at the occasion. About sixty officers from 40 maritime related organizations participated in the seminar. Numbers of WMU graduates, including members of Friends of WMU, Japan, participated in the seminar.

The Shipping Minister said at the occasion that the image of

Bangladesh in the global shipping arena has improved remarkably after the implementation of the ISPS Code in the two major ports of Bangladesh in June, 2004.

Mainly touching on the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code, a fruitful discussion was held among the participants regarding Maritime Security against armed robbery, piracy, etc. The resource personnel, Frank Wall CMG and Col.(Retd.) Michael Chen GP, organized the seminar very nicely with lectures, discussions, questionnaires and group workshops. Different groups were formed from the participants, and they discussed various aspects of the ISPS Code, relating to the assigned job. Finally, each group presented a Ship Security assessment and plan, the Port Facility assessment and threat evaluation and risk assessment. On the whole, the seminar was successful, creating awareness among the participants and identifying the needs and solutions for maritime security.

In closing, the Chairman of CPA distributed certificates to the participants. He hoped that CPA would continue to be involved with such IMO activities in the future in order to contribute more to security in the maritime field.

OPRF Staff Member Visited Bangkok



Members of the Thai Chapter of Sasakawa Fellows and Mr. Inuzuka.

On his way home from a business trip to New Delhi, Mr. Tsutomu Inuzuka, a secretarial staff member of "Friends," stayed in Bangkok March 21-23, 2005, and renewed his friendship with members of the Thai Chapter of Sasakawa Fellows.

On the evening of March 22, he was invited to dinner at a breezy restaurant by the host group, comprised of three Sasakawa Fellows and another WMU graduate: Mr. Somnuck Sukavanich (2002),

Marine Department; Mr. Narinsak Sattaprasit (2003), Marine Department; Mr. Chanachai Lertsuchatavanich (2004), Marine Department, and Ms. Theerakarn Suriyakul Na Ayudhaya (non-Sasakawa), Marine Department.

The restaurant stood on the edge of a large pond. The water in it was stirred by an agitator motor at regular intervals; otherwise, a fishy smell would have dampened appetites. The diners were waited on by a she-man waiter (waitress?), whose service failed to satisfy the taste of our refined guest, regrettably.

The senior of the group, Mr. Somnuck Sukavanich (2002), is one of only two maritime security experts in Thailand. He expressed his hope that a Thai-Japan version of the bilateral maritime security dialogue OPRF would be initiated, as is currently being conducted with India, China and Indonesia.

In recent years, the number of Thai WMU graduates has been persistently on the increase. Although Sasakawa Fellows are yet to become a majority in the community of Thai WMU graduates, they constitute an influential group, while keeping close contact with other WMU graduates. "The fact that the amiable Ms. Theerakarn joined in hosting the dinner for me does not mean she is interested in me personally, but that the community of Thai WMU graduates is interested in the activities of The Nippon Foundation and OPRF," said Mr. Inuzuka, jokingly.



Regional "Train the Trainers" Course for Simulator Instructors in ACCRA, Ghana

Catherine Haizel
(Ghana 2002)
Regional Maritime Academy

A training program for simulator instructors was organized by the IMO under the auspices of the Ministry for Harbours and Railways of Ghana for the West African Sub-region in Accra, the capital city, from June 6-10, 2005.

Participants were drawn mainly from the sub-region, but we had participants from as far south as Namibia also attending. Within the region, members came from Ghana, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Cameroon, Mauritania, and Senegal.

The 15 participants in total were lecturers from mainly engineering and nautical backgrounds in their various maritime academies.

The course was to train and equip the instructors in modern navigation training. This involves the use of computers in the form of integrated bridge systems and engine room monitoring and control equipment. It afforded the participants the

technological background, as well as the "hands on" experience of working in such an environment on board a ship, as a simulated activity. There were only two resource persons, one for the engine room simulators and the other for the bridge, both of whom were from India. They took us through the IMO Model courses 1.22 and 2.07 on how to design, develop and run a simulator course successfully.

Participants were very happy about receiving the knowledge and insight into the world of simulation as a training tool and appreciated the work of the IMO Committee on Technical Cooperation in this regard. However, the issue that bothered them most was how to transfer such immense knowledge to their respective communities back home since the acquisition of simulation equipment for instructional purposes is well beyond the reach of most of the countries.

Despite these misgivings participants were grateful for the opportunity afforded them and were looking forward to being able to get their governments to support their institutions in this regard.

NB: Included in the group picture of participants, taken after the course, were resource persons and lecturers of the academy.

International Conference on Transportation Logistics in Singapore



Adrian Syahminur
(Indonesia 2002)
Indonesia Port Corporation III

We would like to inform you that three members of the Indonesia Sasakawa Fellows, Surabaya Chapter, had an opportunity to present their research paper on port logistics at the "International Conference on Transportation Logistics", which was held by the National University of Singapore in the Furama Riverview Hotel, Singapore, July 27-29, 2005. They are Capt. Fadjar

Santoso (MSA-91), Dothy (PM-2001), and Adrian Syahminur (SM-2002), representing all members of the Indonesia Sasakawa Fellows, Surabaya Chapter.

The conference was initiated by the National University of Singapore and Tsinghua University, co-organized by the University of Tokyo and the Society of Transportation & Logistics (STL) - China Communications and Transportation Association (CCTA), and attended by researchers, and practitioners from more than 20 nations. The members of the Surabaya Chapter presented the paper: "CREATING A SYNERGY BETWEEN SEMARANG CONTAINER TERMINAL AND BANJARMASIN PORT FOR EXPORT/IMPORT CONTAINERS". Professor Akio Imai of KUMM and former WMU Professor also attended the conference and chaired one session.

The paper presented in Singapore was a development of a previous research paper presented in Dalian, China, September 2004, at the International Conference on Logistics Strategy for Ports, which was held by Dalian Maritime University. Members of the Surabaya Chapter are trying to maintain the research atmosphere in the maritime and transportation field, presenting the results at an international event, with the huge support from SOF.

The members of the Indonesia Sasakawa Fellows, Surabaya Chapter, would like to express our greatest gratitude to SOF for their continuous support of our research activities, allowing us to present the results at international conferences. We wish to maintain this wonderful relationship in the future.



Social Gathering in the Henrik Smith Hostel

Engr. Maria Teresa Daguio-Mamisao
(Philippines 2006)
Maritime Industry Authority

A social gathering of the Sasakawa students (first and second year) was held last June 9, 2005 at the basement of the Henrik Smith Hostel, the official residence of the students of the World Maritime University (WMU), and at 1800 hours, picture-taking was done outside the hostel. The masters of ceremony were Ms. Tomomi Okubo of Japan and Engr. Maria Teresa Daguio-Mamisao of the Philippines.

The visiting guests, Dr. Kiyoshi Hara, Professor emeritus of Kobe University of Mercantile Marine, his wife Mrs. Masako Hara, and Mr. Hiroshi Terashima of the Ocean Policy Research Foundation (formerly Ship and Ocean Foundation) attended the 23rd Session of the Board of Governors. In spite of their hectic schedule, the guests were able to visit the hostel and meet the Sasakawa Fellows and exchange different views pertaining to the living conditions and studies of the students.

The gathering was attended by over 40 fellowship students. After the welcome remarks, Dr. Hara addressed the students with a brief message, saying:

"It reminds me of my own experience while studying abroad, to find and understand the different cultures and customs of each student and gain knowledge about it. I further encourage all of you to study hard and appreciate the opportunity given to you to study at WMU to further enhance your expertise and learn at the same time about the multinational environment around you."

On the other hand, Mr. Terashima stated his message as follows:

"I have been involved with WMU activities for 10 years. Our Foundation gives fellowships to students who are young and nice to come here to Malmö and study their chosen specialization. This is a good chance to open the door to the maritime community worldwide, which enables you to work together in the future."

The WMU Student Council President, Mr. Angel Faris Lobaton IV of the Philippines offered a toast to open the evening's activities, after which dinner was served. This gave the students the opportunity to talk with the guests and fellow students.

Also present at the said gathering, Professor T. Nakazawa of WMU, Dr. Nils Stormby, Honorary Consul General of Japan, and his wife Mrs. Yukie Stormby gave messages which focused more on encouraging students to study hard. The gathering was adjourned at 20:00.

Visit to the 'Samurai exhibition' --- from Malmö



Tomoyuki Nakazono
(Japan 2005)
Japan Coast Guard

On May 14, 2005, Sasakawa fellowship students from 2005 and 2006 had an invitation from Dr. Nils Stormby, Honorary Consul General of Japan in Malmö, to the 'Samurai exhibition' held at the Malmö Museum. The exhibits had been temporarily offered by an individual person living near Malmö who collected Japanese antiques as his hobby.

The exhibition showed items and tools related not only to Samurai, such as Japanese swords, suits of armor, and helmets, but also to Japanese traditional culture, such as Noh masks, statues of Buddha, a complete tiered stand for displaying dolls, which is rare even among families in Japan, and surprisingly, varicolored carp in an artificial pond established in the Museum with Japanese garden-like scenery.

At the beginning of the visit, Dr. Stormby personally talked about the exhibition to all the students, after which they divided into three groups, each guided by a staff member capable of giving detailed explanations on the exhibits. During the visit, the curious students asked many questions which were fully answered by these excellent guides. The students gained a lot of understanding into the lives of Samurai in traditional Japanese culture, as well as life in general in those days.

In addition to providing the students with new knowledge and understanding of a foreign country, this visit offered the first opportunity of the year for the Sasakawa fellowship students at WMU to assemble and deepen their friendships with each other.

Lastly, by taking advantage of this opportunity, I, on behalf of all the students, would like to express again our sincere gratitude to Dr. Stormby for inviting us to such a wonderful event and for his kind consideration to the Sasakawa fellowship students at WMU.

Congratulations on Your Promotions!

Recently, Mr. Sasakawa received a few letters from the Fellows sharing their joy at being promoted.



Mr. Jerry A. Nibre
(Philippines 2003)

A letter from Mr. Jerry A. Nibre (Philippines 2003) informed us that he was appointed Superintendent, Coast Guard School, Coast Guard Education and Training Command. His responsibilities are mainly to train new PCG recruits and other personnel to be skilled, professional, and responsible coastguard members. This year, the school conducted courses with 1,060 students for both officers and enlisted personnel to keep their coastguard attuned with the needs of the Asian region. Mr. Nibre believes that it is important for the students to fully understand the enormity of their responsibilities to earn the respect of the public.



Mr. Revaz Beridze
(Georgia 2001)

A letter from Mr. Ravaz Beridze (Georgia 2001) conveyed the message that he was given a very important position from his government. By the Decree of the President of Georgia, Mr. Mikheil Saakashvili, Mr. Beridze was appointed Chairman of the Maritime Transport Administration of Georgia. He feels that this is a great opportunity for him to better promote the spirit of safer shipping and cleaner seas which he acquired at WMU as one of the Sasakawa Fellows, through the study and experiences in the field of administrating maritime affairs.



Ms. Sandra Rita Alnutt
(Brazil 1999)

Ms. Sandra Rita Alnutt (Brazil 1999) has started to work at IMO, one of the very familiar international organizations for graduates of WMU. Her new position is Technical Officer of Maritime Safety Division. She mentioned that anyone would always be welcome if they have any opportunities to visit London.

We always welcome your contribution!

The secretariat would like to invite you to contribute your articles, essays and photos for the Newsletter/website "Friends of WMU, Japan," on your daily activities, official occasions, sails/travels, gatherings of fellows and family information, such as marriages or births. Since fellows are very much interested in the ports and harbors of your countries, essays or reports on your ports and harbors are always welcome. 150 words for short essays, 250 words for a half page essay and 600 words for a whole page essay. Photos and essays can be sent by mail to the address below or e-mail to the secretariat at wmujapan@sof.or.jp

Editor's Postscript

I would like to express my deepest condolences to the families of the victims of the terrorist attacks in London on July 7, 2005, and subsequent attacks on July 21. We understand that this kind of inhuman and destructive act can happen anywhere in the world, and appropriate security measures against terrorism have become more significant than ever, because only these kinds of measures may minimize the risks of indiscriminate acts of terrorism. Furthermore, we have learned many things from the response of the UK government. SOLAS XI-2 and the ISPS Code require Contracting Governments to set three-tiered security levels, and if my understanding is correct, the UK government kept the lowest maritime security level after the

security incident happened. Actually, many people had doubts about this decision, believing security levels should be raised or lowered systematically. However, as a result of this calm and rational decision, the maritime sector was spared from unnecessary economic pain, and the decision minimized the pleasure of the terrorists as well. We realize that increasing or decreasing maritime security levels may have a political message, and this fact makes it quite difficult to put in practice SOLAS XI-2 and the ISPS Code.

Naoto Nakagawa
Japan Ship Technology Research Association

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