

# COMITÉ MARITIME INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

8 July 2016

Presidents of NMLAs Executive Councillors Titulary Members Consultative Members

Dear All

#### The IMO International Maritime Prize 2015

I am delighted to inform you that Vice-President Honoris Causa of the CMI, Frank Wiswall, has been named as the winner of the IMO's International Maritime Prize 2015.

This is a great honour for Frank Wiswall and the CMI and I am delighted that the CMI's nomination of Frank for this award has been successful.

I am **attaching** for your information the Nomination and attachments. If you would like to communicate with Frank in order to pass on your congratulations his email address is: flw@silver-oar.com.

With kind regards,

**Stuart Hetherington** 

# Nomination of Candidate for the International Maritime Prize 2015

# THE COMITÉ MARITIME INTERNATIONAL

hereby nominates

Dr Frank Lawrence Wiswall Junior for his outstanding contribution to the purposes and functions of the International Maritime Organisation, his effective leadership and his personal contribution to the International Maritime Organisation through his role as Vice Chairman of the Legal Committee of the IMO from 1974 to 1979; as Chairman of the Legal Committee of the IMO from 1980 to 1984; and as lecturer at the IMO International Martime Law Institute (IMLI) at Malta as well as being a member of its governing board from 1992 to the present; contributing to the establishment of the uniformity of maritime law during his long and distinguished career as a practising maritime lawyer, academic, and as Vice-President of the Comité Maritime International (CMI).

for the International Maritime Prize 2015

The attached statement and Curriculum Vitae is submitted in support of the candidature.

For and on behalf of the Comité Maritime International

Signed:

Dated:

Name:

Stuart Hetherington

Designation: President of the Comité Maritime International

# **Comite Maritime International**

# Nomination for the International Maritime Prize 2015

# **Doctor Frank Lawrence Wiswall, Junior**

#### **Nomination Narrative**

- Dr Frank Lawrence Wiswall Junior (Frank Wiswall) is nominated on behalf of the Comité Maritime International (CMI) for the International Maritime Prize 2015 for his outstanding contribution to the purposes and functions of the International Maritime Organisation during his long and distinguished career which has included being Chair of the Legal Committee of the International Maritime Organisation, Vice President of the Comité Maritime Organisation (CMI). Attorney and Academic.
- 2. Frank Wiswall was born in Albany, New York and raised in Maine in the United States. He obtained a Batchelor of Arts degrees at Colby College, a Doctor of Law at Cornell University and a Doctor of Philosophy at Clare College, Cambridge University for his thesis on the development of Admiralty Jurisdiction and Practice since 1800, which was published by the Cambridge University Press in 1970. He was admitted to the Bar in the State of Maine in 1965 and the Supreme Court of the United States in 1968.
- 3. Frank Wiswall worked with one of the leading New York admiralty and maritime firms at the time, Burlingham Underwood, between 1967 and 1973 before taking on the role as Admiralty Counsel, Bureau of Maritime Affairs for the Republic of Liberia from 1973 to 1988. He also worked as Maritime Counsel at the International Bank in Washington DC and has been in private practice and consultation on admiralty and maritime international law from 1985 to the present.

# **International Maritime Organisation (IMO)**

4. He held the posts of Vice Chairman (1974 to 1979) and Chairman (1980 to 1984) at the Legal Committee of the IMO. He was elected as Vice-Chairman of the Legal Committee of the IMO at LEG 21 in January/February 1974 and remained so until LEG 42 in February 1980. He was acting Chairman at LEG 25, LEG 30, LEG 35, LEG 39, LEG 40 and LEG 42. Thereafter Dr. Wiswall was Chairman of the Legal Committee from LEG 43 in June 1980 until LEG 52 in September 1984.

# LEG 21 February 1974 - LEG 42 February 1980: main achievements

- Preparations for the inaugural session of the Assembly of the 1971 Fund Convention
- Draft Articles of a Convention on Wreck Removal and Related Issues
- Draft articles of a Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage on Board Ships
- Draft Articles for an International Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims
- Consideration of recommendations to the Council on a convention on the regime of vessels in foreign ports
- Consideration of legal aspects of the draft International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue

# LEG 43 June 1980 - LEG 52 September 1984: main achievements

- Extension of the 1969 International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage to oils not covered by that Convention
- Review of the limits laid down in the 1969 Civil Liability Convention and the 1971
   Fund Convention
- Consideration of matters relating to the organization and work of the International Conference on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Certain Substances by Sea, 1984
- Draft Convention on Liability and Compensation in Connection with the Carriage of Noxious and Hazardous Substances by Sea
- Consideration of the question of salvage, in particular the revision of the 1910 Convention on Salvage and Assistance at Sea, and related issues
- · Consideration of work in respect of maritime liens and mortgages and related subjects

Apart from his considerable work as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Legal Committee, Frank Wiswall played a proactive role at several international conferences convened by IMO. In particular he was Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the International Legal Conference on the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage on Board Ships, 1974. He was also Chairman of the Committee on Final Clauses of the International Conference on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims, 1976. He was the Chairman of the Committee of the whole of the International Conference on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connexion with the Carriage of Certain Substances by Sea, 1984.

# International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI)

- 5. Frank Wiswall has been a member of the Governing Board of <u>IMLI</u> since 1992, a Professor at IMLI since 1991 and on its Academic Committee since 2008.
- 6. Frank Wiswall's association with IMLI in Malta dates back to the 1980s, shortly after his tenure as Chairman of the IMO Legal Committee, when the then IMO Secretary-General asked him to review a draft syllabus which had been prepared for IMLI (at the time in the process of establishment in Malta). Frank Wiswall instantly became a strong believer in IMLI's purpose and began teaching at IMLI in 1990, visiting once or twice a year. For over 20 years Frank Wiswall had lectured on a diversity of topics including maritime legal history, maritime legislation drafting, law of maritime safety and the law of marine collisions.
- 7. Through his lectures he trained lawyers from around the world in the drafting of international conventions, in the international regulation of maritime law through international conventions including the Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea and the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, as well as in the incorporation of international conventions into national legislation.
- 8. On 30 March 1999 IMLI conferred on Frank Wiswall the Degree of Honorary Professor of International Maritime Law in recognition of his life-long service to the harmonization, progressive development and codification of international maritime law.
- 9. Not only was Frank Wiswall a visiting fellow at IMLI, but he also acted as a supervisor in the Institute's Research Degree programme after being a fervent promoter of the establishment of the Institute's M.Jur. Degree as part of the programme.
- For many years Frank Wiswall has also actively contributed to the work of IMLI as a
   Member of the IMLI Governing Board and as a Member of the IMLI Academic Committee.

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# Comité Maritime International (CMI)

- 11. Frank Wiswall's contribution to the work of the CMI has also been extensive. He was made a Titulary member of the CMI in 1980 and an Executive Councillor from 1989 to 1997, Vice President from 1997 to 2005 and Chairman of the CMI Constitutional Committee from 1992. He was CMI's main representative to the United Nations from 1997 to 2011 and Chair of the Joint International Working Group on Piracy and Maritime Crime from 1998 to 2007.
- 12. The CMI Handbook of Maritime Conventions which he first produced in 1992 has been reproduced on many occasions since, and has been a necessary accompaniment to anyone having to consider or write about any of the significant IMO Conventions.
- 13. In his work for the CMI Frank Wiswall brought his considerable experience, esteem in which he has been held, and skills as Chair of International Working Groups of the CMI to two particular tasks that concerned the maritime community and which produced the following texts:
  - Piracy and Maritime Crime "A Model National law on Piracy and Acts of Maritime Violence 2001 and a Code of Practice for the Investigation of the Crime of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships".
  - Classification Societies "Principles of Conduct for Classification Societies and Governments and Classification Societies and Shipowners (1999)".

All the above texts were produced by working groups involving representatives from the industry bodies concerned about the topics and chaired by Frank Wiswall, and the texts are located in the CMI Handbook of Maritime Conventions.

- 14. Frank Wiswall was Chairman of the Committee in Intergovernmental Organisations of the Maritime Law Association of the United States (MLAUS) from 1983 to 1987; Chairman of its Committee in the CMI 1987-1995; and created a life member in 2006 of the MLAUS.
- 15. His scholarship has been prodigious. Apart from his thesis to which reference has been made earlier and his numerous writings, including papers, articles, and lectures on Admiralty and International Maritime Law he was the Editor in Chief of Benedict on Admiralty (Vols 6-6F); Editor in Chief Benedict's Maritime Bulletin since 2009 and a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Maritime Law and Commerce.

#### RÉSUMÉ

#### WISWALL, FRANK LAWRENCE, JR.

Vitae:

Born Albany, New York USA; 21 September 1939. Raised in Maine.

Degrees:

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Colby College, 1962; Doctor of Law (J.D.), Cornell University, 1965;

Doctor of Philosophy, Faculty of Law (Ph.D. jur.), Cambridge University (Clare Coll.), 1967.

Academic and Professional Honors:

Yorke Prizeman of the University of Cambridge, elected 1969; Fellow of the Royal Historical Society (F.R.Hist.S.), elected 1972;

Professor of International Maritime Law ad honorem, IMO International Maritime Law

Institute (IMLI), title conferred 1999;

Chairman, American Maritime Law Foundation, Inc., 2002- present;

Vice-President honoris causa of the Comité Maritime International (CMI), elected 2005.

Professional Posts:

Burlingham Underwood, New York, Marine Collision Department, 1967-73; Admiralty Counsel, Bureau of Maritime Affairs, Republic of Liberia, 1973-88;

International Bank, Washington, DC, Maritime Counsel 1975-85;

private practice and consultation in Admiralty and Maritime International Law, 1985- present.

International
Posts:

Legal Committee of the International Maritime Organization, London (IMO - a Specialized

Agency of the United Nations), Vice-Chairman 1974-79, Chairman 1980-84;

Membre Titulaire du Comité Maritime International (CMI), elected 1980; Executive Councillor of the CMI, 1989-97; Vice-President, 1997-2005; Chairman of the CMI Constitutional Committee,

1992- present; Main Representative of the CMI to the United Nations, 1997-2011; Member, Governing Board, IMO International Maritime Law Institute, 1992- present;

Chairman of the Joint International Working Group on Piracy and Maritime Crime, 1998-2007.

Nautical Qualifications:

USCG License as Master of Near Coastal Steam & Motor Vessels, 1960- present (10th Issue); Member, Navigation Safety Advisory Council, US Dep't of Homeland Security, 2009- present; District Captain for Sector Northern New England, US Coast Guard Auxiliary, 2010- present.

Academic Posts : Tutorial Supervisor in International Law, Clare College, University of Cambridge, 1966-67; Guest Lecturer in Admiralty, Cornell University School of Law, 1968-77;

Lecturer in Law (Admiralty), University of Virginia School of Law, 1978-82; Adjunct Professor of Law (Admiralty), Cornell University School of Law, 1984;

Niels F. Johnsen Distinguished Professor of Maritime Law, Tulane Univ. School of Law, 1985;

Visiting Professor of Law, World Maritime University, Malmö, Sweden, 1986-2003; Professor, IMO IMLI, Malta, 1991- present; Academic Committee, 2008-present; Occasional Lecturer and Panelist, US Naval War College, Newport, RI, 2009-present.

Bar

Membership:

State of Maine (1965); Supreme Court of the United States (1968);

United States District Courts for Maine and E.D. Virginia;

United States Courts of Appeals, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 11th and DC Judicial Circuits.

Resigned in Good Standing: State of New York (1968-2007), District of Columbia (1975-2007), Commonwealth of Virginia, (1978-1992), US District Courts Southern NY and DC (1968-2007).

Subjects Taught: Admiralty and Maritime Law, Diplomatic and Conventional Process, International Maritime Law and Regulation, Law of Marine Collision, Law of International Organizations, Law of Treaties, Drafting of Maritime Legislation, Marine Casualty Investigation, Marine Environmental Law, Maritime Legal History, Maritime Security Law, Piracy and Maritime Criminal Law.

Writings:

Books: Admiralty Jurisdiction and Practice Since 1800, Cambridge University Press, 1970; A Brief History of the Comité Maritime International, Antwerp, 1997; 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 2010. Contributor of articles to The Oxford Encyclopedia of Maritime History, Oxford U.P., 4 Vols., 2007. Numerous published articles and papers on Admiralty and International Maritime Law. Editor-in-Chief, Benedict on Admiralty, Vols. 6 – 6F, International Maritime Law, Documents and Commentary, LexisNexis/Bender, 1992- present; CMI Handbook of Maritime Conventions, LexisNexis, 2001, 2004, 2008, 2011. Editor-in-Chief, Benedict's Maritime Bulletin, 2009- present.

Member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Maritime Law and Commerce.

Member of:

Maritime Law Association of the United States (Chairman, Committee on Intergovernmental Organizations, 1983-87; Chairman, Committee on the CMI, 1987-95; Life Member, 2006 -); National Lawyers Association; National Cargo Bureau; Ecclesiastical Law Society; Selden Society (English Legal History); American Society for Legal History; National Association of Scholars.