

FLAGSHIP

New Liberia President confirms maritime commitment with visit to LMTI



Liberian President George Manneh Weah joins LISCR Co-Chairmen, Adam and Elan Cohen, LISCR Managing Director & LMTI Chairman, Avi Zaidenberg, and LiMA Commissioner, James Kollie at the newly reopened and LISCR managed LMTI.

On February 13th, 2018, newly elected President of the Republic of Liberia, His Excellency Mr. George Manneh Weah, visited the recently rehabilitated Liberia Maritime Training Institute (LMTI) in Marshall, Margibi County, Liberia. He was

personally welcomed by LISCR Co-Chairmen, Mr. Adam and Mr. Elan Cohen, Liberian Maritime Administration Commissioner, Mr. James Kollie, and LISCR Managing Director & LMTI Chairman, Mr. Avi Zaidenberg.

Following a welcoming ceremony by the residents of the town of Marshall and LMTI Cadets and staff, the President addressed the Institute and the local community. President Weah offered encouragement to the young Cadets and expressed appreciation for LISCR's contributions and its ongoing management of LMTI. Commissioner Kollie and Mr. Zaidenberg also addressed the Cadets and congratulated each other for their continued close cooperation in developing LMTI as a centre of educational excellence. Thereafter, President Weah was provided a tour of LMTI's newly constructed facilities, including marine workshops, laboratories, and lecture halls.

The town of Marshall has seen a dramatic rise in economic and social activity following LMTI's rehabilitation, which has become a source of pride for the local community.

President's Weah's visit confirms his strong commitment to the Liberian maritime sector as well as his emphasis on fostering youth education and employment.

Navios recognized with Commissioner's Award

The Liberian Registry took the opportunity at the recent Connecticut Maritime Association (CMA) conference and exhibition to present Navios Holdings Inc with its Commissioner's Award for Excellence. The award was presented during the course of the Liberian Registry-sponsored CMA delegates' luncheon by former Commissioner Joseph Keller to Navios President, Shunji Sasada, who accepted on behalf of Navios CEO Angeliki Frangou.

Navios is committed to maintaining the highest standards of excellence throughout its fleet, and shares with the Liberian Registry a dedication to quality and safety. When the Liberian Registry was launched in 1948, its first registered ship was the Greek-owned tanker World Peace. So it is fitting that, in the year of the Registry's 70th anniversary, it is able to honour one of its trusted Greek shipping partners with this award as a mark of gratitude for their continued support.



Navios President, Shunji Sasada (left) accepts Commissioner's Award for Excellence from former Commissioner, Joseph Keller (right).



Jerry Smith remembered

It is with great sadness that LISCR has to record the passing of its former COO, Jerry Smith.

Jerry was the first employee of LISCR, having joined Yoram Cohen and the company after his long-standing role as General Secretary of the Liberian Shipowners' Council. He helped the Registry establish a strong footing within the industry, before being succeeded by Scott Bergeron in August 2000. Thereafter, he continued to represent Liberia at IMO and ILO through 2005.

Jerry played a pioneering role in developing what we know today as the MLC Convention — something from which he derived immense pride and satisfaction. As well as campaigning for improved crew welfare, Jerry was a committed advocate of the open register system, which was under constant attack during his tenure at the LSC, dating back to the 1970s.

Jerry was recently in touch with LISCR, congratulating the Registry on its continued success.

The shipping industry has lost a true champion.

LIBERIA'S EXPANDING FLEET



The Liberian Registry is delighted to welcome to its continually expanding worldwide fleet the 63,000 dwt bulk carrier newbuilding "KM Jakarta", owned by Taiwan's Kuang Ming Shipping Corporation. The vessel joins a sister-ship, the "KM London", under the Liberian flag.



In March this year, Bianca Marine Services S.A. took delivery of the VLCC "Almi Atlas" at the Mokpo shipyard in South Korea. "Almi Atlas", managed by the Greek tanker operators Almi Tankers, is the first of two VLCCs of their newbuilding project at Hyundai Samho Heavy Industries. The vessel will operate under the Liberian flag and is classed with DNV-GL. "Almi Atlas" features 315,221 in dwt, and a SOx scrubber, which reduces SOx emissions. This environmentally friendly design exceeds industry requirements. Hyundai Samho Heavy Industries believes that scrubbers will become the preferred choice for green vessels in the future, replacing older vessels in the lead-up to implementation of the 2020 sulphur cap.



Pictured is the 17,400 dwt vehicle carrier "Lydden" which was delivered by Japanese shipyard, Shin Kurushima Dockyard Co Ltd, to Fair Wind Navigation S.A in March this year. Liberia is pleased to welcome "Lydden" aboard.



Pictured on its maiden voyage is the 12,000 dwt chemical tanker "Sunny Rainbow", which was delivered to its owner Solar Shipping and Trading S.A. of Japan by Sasaki Shipbuilding Co Ltd in January this year. This is the first Solar Shipping and Trading vessel to be registered with Liberia.

Liberia launches innovative environmental awareness training

The Liberian Registry has launched a ground-breaking marine environmental awareness training program for seafarers and shoreside staff.

The computer-based program has been developed in co-operation with the North American Marine Environment Protection Association (NAMEPA), Netherlands-based ProSea Marine Education, and Maritime Training Services (MTS) of Seattle, Washington. It provides a comprehensive overview of the complex and diverse marine environment, explaining how it is impacted by shipboard waste, discharge and spills, and by shipping generally. It also covers marine ecology, environmental compliance plans and management systems, sustainable shipping and the role of the human element in pollution prevention. In addition, it provides an overview of MARPOL regulations and other relevant IMO conventions, emphasizing the importance of regulatory compliance in general.

Liberian Registry vice-president Christian Mollitor says "This program provides the training that seafarers and shoreside staff need in an era of strict environmental compliance and oversight. Environmental performance, regulatory compliance and safety awareness all play a vital role in the commercial success of every company engaged in the shipping industry. In

keeping with its reputation as the most technologically advanced maritime administration in the world, and as part of its corporate social responsibility program, the Liberian Registry is delighted to have worked with NAMEPA, ProSea and MTS in producing this program, which provides a framework for individuals to take an active role in balancing economic prosperity, environmental quality and social awareness in the shipping industry."

The marine environmental awareness training is suitable for use by those with a vested interest in protecting the marine environment, including all seafaring and port personnel and all office-based maritime industry staff. It is based on the IMO model course 1.38 and meets the requirements of STCW Chapter VI. Liberia will issue a special qualification (SQ) certificate in Basic Environmental Awareness to anyone who successfully completes the course and submits an application and training certificate. Seafarers will receive an SQ sticker for their Seafarer's Identification & Record Books. Shoreside personnel and cruise ship crew will be issued an SQ card.

For more information, or to purchase copies, please contact publications@lisr.com or visit www.lisr.com/CBT.



DID YOU KNOW?

Milestones from the Liberian Registry's 70-year history *Liberia paved the way for open registries at IMO*

Within 20 years of its formation in 1948, the Liberian Registry had grown to be the largest in the world. Attaining that status, however, was not without its problems.

When the inaugural meeting of IMCO (the forerunner of IMO) took place in London in January 1959, Liberia was ranked the third largest maritime nation in the world by Lloyd's Register of Shipping. It therefore seemed a logical choice to be elected a member of the inaugural IMCO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC), particularly since the IMCO Convention stipulated that the MSC should consist of fourteen members elected by the assembly from members of those nations with important interests in maritime safety, of which not less than eight should be the largest shipowning nations. But the traditional maritime nations, led by the UK, Norway, Belgium and Holland, argued that Liberia was not a bona-fide maritime nation

and that it was therefore excluded from MSC membership.

The International Court of Justice was subsequently asked to adjudicate and concluded that it was not correct for Liberia to have been excluded from the group consisting of not less than eight of the largest shipowning nations. The Court explained that neither nationality of shipping company stockholders, nor the notion of genuine links between ships and their countries of registry, was a relevant test for determining 'shipowning nations'. The court felt that it was not possible to contend that the words 'shipowning nations' meant that the ships had to be owned by the state itself.

IMCO later resolved this controversy by opening up membership of the MSC to all member states of the organization. Liberia had thus struck a blow for fair representation at the highest level of global shipping regulation.

Liberia participates in seafarer mental health roundtable

The Liberian Registry is dedicated to protecting the welfare of seafarers and to ensuring that the maritime industry maintains its commitment to promoting greater understanding of mental health concerns and awareness of the issues facing all onboard personnel. It was therefore delighted to be asked to attend a Seafarer Mental Health roundtable held recently at the Seamen's Church Institute at the International Seafarers' Centre in Port Newark, NJ.

The Liberian Registry's Manager of Quality Assurance, Stephen Bomgardner, and Associate Manager & Associate Counsel of its Investigations Department, Ruphene Sidifall, joined representatives at the event from flag states, shipowners, P&I clubs, the medical profession, academia, and seafarer welfare agencies.

The roundtable began with a discussion of seafarers' medical certificates, and the mental health factors that must be considered when issuing them. The topic of PTSD caused by piracy incidents was also discussed, as was the stigma facing piracy survivors.

Also the subject of debate were the exacerbating factors of life at sea, including the isolation and separation from common support networks that seafarers often experience. It was observed that many self-destructive threats and acts reportedly



Captain Steve Bomgardner and Ruphene Sidifall, Esq. of the Liberian Registry joined other maritime, medical, and academia professionals to discuss seafarers' well-being.

take place during seafarers' first contracts, when they are typically between the ages of 19 and 27.

Some shipping-related companies already provide a form designed to evaluate mental health issues, and it was suggested that this could be used effectively on a wider scale throughout the maritime industry. As well as the clear benefits that this would offer to seafarers, this was seen as an investment in health and wellness which could pay dividends by reducing claims and maximizing productivity.

Stephen Bomgardner says, "The involvement of all the industry experts was beneficial for each and every person as the multitude of experience and information transferred will allow our industry the chance to combat these ever-growing issues among seafarers."



Change at the top of Turkey's Chamber of Shipping

Rhan Esinduy, regional manager of the Liberian Registry's office in Istanbul, has been elected a member of the Turkish Chamber of Shipping after being part of the team led by Tamer Kiran which carried the vote at the recent Chamber of Shipping elections in Istanbul. The election was won by a convincing margin — 81 seats in the chamber against the 39 seats of the opposition, and 32 committees out of a total of 48.



LET LIBERIA INTERVENE

After conducting a review of the provided pre-arrival checklist and history of a reefer vessel that was enroute to New Bedford, Massachusetts recently, the Liberian Administration contacted the vessel operator and scheduled a special safety inspection. When the flag state inspector attended the vessel, he reported serious structural defects. The US Coast Guard was due to board the vessel for a port state control inspection, and the Liberian Administration worked with the client and the vessel's classification society to provide the USCG with the documentation needed to demonstrate that the deficiencies were identified and rectified prior to any adverse control actions being placed on the vessel. The diligence of the Liberian HQ staff and inspector enabled the vessel to avoid a USCG detention and to depart with minimal delay.



ON THE REGISTER

Sau Weng Tang joined LISCR in January 2018 and today is Managing Director of its Singapore and South-East Asia operations. Having graduated with a First-Class Honours Degree in Naval Architecture & Offshore Engineering from the University of Strathclyde, Scotland, in 1995, he underwent a two-year training programme with Lloyd's Register (LR), where he undertook plan approval work in London before gaining invaluable onsite newbuilding survey experience at Samsung & Daewoo Shipbuilders in South Korea.

Thereafter, he spent four years in Singapore working on ship surveys, repairs and newbuilding projects in a variety of different shipyards, but not before gaining seagoing experience on board a seagoing VLCC. In February 2001, he moved to Hong Kong to assume a client relationship / business development role with LR.

In August 2004, Sau Weng went back to Singapore to head up an LR Asia consultancy business, then in September 2006 joined the Royal Bank of Scotland as Director for Ship Asset Management at RBS Global Shipping Business Centre in London. Then, in September 2008, Sau Weng joined the risk management and insurance industry and was responsible for overall profit and loss of the marine business in the Asia Pacific region.

Sau Weng joined LISCR because he felt he could add value to the flag administration industry. He says, "I was attracted to the professionalism of LISCR's people, to its technological advancement and the innovative culture of the organisation. My role is primarily to ensure that Liberian Registry's business continues to grow and that its operations run smoothly. At the same time, I have the opportunity to make a difference to the shipping community by ensuring that ships are seaworthy and that seafarers are well taken care of.

"LISCR has had an office in Singapore for six years, under the direction of Benson Peretti, who did an excellent job setting up the Shanghai, Taipei, and Seoul offices. It means that I have big shoes to fill. Singapore and the wider Asia market are vital growth areas for the registry."

Sau Weng, who is fluent in English, Malay and Mandarin/Cantonese, admits that he is a workaholic. But he always makes time for his wife and two teenage sons and enjoys playing golf and various racket games, photography, karaoke, cooking and mentoring the future generation.



NEWS FROM THE WORLD'S LEADING SHIP REGISTRY

THE LIBERIAN REGISTRY WORLD-WIDE OFFICES

HEADQUARTERS: VIRGINIA, USA

Adam Cohen
LISCR Co-Chairman
Tel: + 1 703 251 2408

Elan Cohen
LISCR Co-Chairman
Tel: + 1 703 251 2408

Scott Bergeron
Chief Executive Officer
Tel: +1 703 790 3434

IN THIS ISSUE...

New environmental awareness training program

Remembering Jerry Smith

Navios wins Commissioner's Award

President Weah confirms industry commitment with LMTI visit

Liberia's 70 years of dedicated service to the shipping industry

Sau Weng Tang on the register

New York, USA

Tel: +1 212 697 3434
Greg Maj, General Manager
registration@lisscr.com

Monrovia, Liberia

Tel: +231 77 000 400
Joseph Keller, Executive Vice President
info@lisscr.com

Singapore

Tel: +65 6323 1048
Sau Weng Tang, Managing Director
info@lisscr.sg

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Tel: +9714 3452541
Sunil Jaitly, Regional Director
infoDubai@lisscr.com

Panama City, Panama

Tel: +507 263 2199
Rafael Cigarruista, Regional Manager
infoPanama@lisscr.com

Tokyo, Japan

Tel: +81 3 5419 7001
Eiji Okazaki, President
info@lisscr-japan.com

Hamburg, Germany

Tel: +49 40 35 00 4660
Carsten Gierga, Managing Director
info@lisscr.de

Piraeus, Greece

Tel: +30 210 452 9670
Michalis Pantazopoulos, Senior Vice President
info@lisscr.gr

Zurich, Switzerland

Tel: +41 44 250 8650
Felizia Lieber, Corporate Manager
info@lisscr.ch

Hong Kong

Tel: +852 2810 1068
Gerry Buchanan, Managing Director
lisscrfe@lisscr.com.hk

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Tel: +55 21 9978 72736
John Goes, Regional Representative
infoBrazil@lisscr.com

Istanbul, Turkey

Tel: +90 216 688 37 56
Erhan Esinduy,
Regional Representative
infoTurkey@lisscr.com

Seoul, South Korea

Tel: +82 70 7518 9139
Chelios (Chi-Hun) Lee, General Manager
info@lisscr.kr

After Hours

Emergency Contact
Tel: +1 703 963 6216
DutyOfficer@lisscr.com

London, UK

Tel: +44 (0)20 7702 4752
Kostas Ladas, General Manager
info@lisscr.co.uk

Shanghai, China

Tel: +86 21 5258 8082
Alex Ye, General Manager
infoShanghai@lisscr.com

Editorial consultants

Merlin Corporate
Communication

The Liberian Registry believes in making all relevant information available to its clients in the most efficient and user-friendly format possible. If you are not already part of the Registry's Subscription Service, you can sign up to our Benchmark email distribution list which will allow you to receive all LISCR Notices and Advisories, as well as other LISCR Alerts. Simply subscribe online at <http://www.lisscr.com/subscribe>.



LIBERIAN REGISTRY

8619 Westwood Center Drive, Suite 300, Vienna, Virginia 22182 USA

www.lisscr.com

