



24

COMITÉ MARITIME INTERNATIONAL

SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 September 2018

Report on the Planning Committee

Shortly after assuming the Secretary-Generalship of CMI, I was advised that I had inherited the chairmanship of the Planning Committee from John Hare. Upon enquiry, I was further advised that the Committee had been largely inactive in recent years due in large measure to the very full programme of meetings that CMI had undertaken. Nonetheless, it was thought that the time had come for its revival.

My first task was to write to all the members to enquire whether they still wished to participate in the Committee. In so doing, I enquired whether they knew of any other CMI members who might wish to serve on the Committee and also expressed the view that it might be a good idea to expand the membership of the Committee by co-opting one or two Young CMI members, as they are the future of our Organization.

All bar one expressed a willingness to continue working in the Committee and all approved my idea of expanding the membership to include Young CMI. I therefore wrote to Giorgio Berlingieri as well as to Blythe Daley and Edmund Sweetman, whom I am pleased to say, all accepted my invitation to join the Committee.

Subject to the approval of EXCO, the membership of the Planning Committee now consists of the following:

Rosalie Balkin (Chair);

Jose Apolo;

Giorgio Berlingieri;

Blythe Daley;

Tomotaka Fujita;

In Hyeon Kim;

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Dihuang Song;

Michael Sturley; and

Edmund Sweetman.

Andrew Taylor expressed a wish to step down from the Committee to enable new and younger blood to join the Committee. I thank him for his previous service to the Committee. I believe that the Committee now has a mix of more experienced members whose corporate memory should serve the Committee well, as well as some 'new blood' with fresh ideas. Of course, anyone else willing and able to join would be most welcome.

The Committee has decided to meet informally in the margins of the November 2018 Assembly, partly through lack of time and partly to have the benefit of hearing the report of The Future of the CMI Committee.

In this connection, my understanding is that the mandate of the Planning Committee is to assess what legal maritime issues might be likely to arise in the near future that CMI should be involved in, while that of the Future of CMI Committee is to look more at CMI work methods and internal organizational issues. Nevertheless, there is a strong perception among some members of the Planning Committee that the mandates and goals of the two Committees overlap and this is an issue that needs to be sorted out before we can move forward. Perhaps some of the confusion may be attributable to the respective names of the two committees but, in any event, before the Planning Committee can undertake any substantive work, it needs to be given some clear direction on its mandate and goals. Some clarification from EXCO and the Assembly would be appreciated.

I would therefore respectfully request that:

- EXCO (and the Assembly) consider these issues and provide some clarity on the mandate and goals of the Planning Committee;
- the Composition of the Planning Committee be approved; and that
- the Planning Committee be given a time slot at the colloquium to be held in Mexico City next year, if possible at a different time from any meeting of the Future of the CMI Committee (so that, if deemed helpful, we might request the Chair of that Committee to be present to brief us).



Rosalie Balkin

Dr Rosalie Balkin AO
SECRETARY-GENERAL, COMITÉ MARITIME INTERNATIONAL

