



COMITÉ MARITIME INTERNATIONAL

PRESIDENT

3 March 2020

MLA Presidents
Titulary Members
Consultative Members

Re: *Judicial Sales Update*
Rotterdam Rules
Unified Interpretation Revised Questionnaire
yCMI Essay Prize

Dear Presidents, Titulary Members and Consultative Members,

I write to provide brief updates on the above topics.

Attached you will find Ann Fenech's letter of 1 March 2020, providing an update on the Judicial Sales instrument and developments within UNCITRAL Working Group VI which is preparing for its upcoming meeting in New York on 20-24 April 2020. Also attached is a copy of the 2nd revised Draft Instrument dated 11 February 2020, and accompanying Note dated 13 February 2020. We would encourage you to read these materials and liaise with your respective Government representatives ahead of the April 2020 meeting in New York to ensure the continued success of this important project.

Also attached for your review are copies of the CMI's 14 February 2020 submissions to IMO's Maritime Safety Committee and the Facilitation Committee and Sub-Committee on Carriage of Cargoes and Containers, which focus on the role of the Rotterdam Rules in promoting vessel safety and, in particular, reducing the risk of container fires by requiring greater sharing of information between shippers and carriers, focusing on safety standards, and facilitating electronic commerce (thereby enabling operational personnel to have timely access to information needed to ensure vessel safety). We would encourage you to liaise with your Government representatives who attend IMO meetings to highlight the advantages of the

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Rotterdam Rules in promoting vessel safety, with a view to encouraging States to ratify this forward-looking legal cargo regime.

Further to my letter of 19 February 2020, I have been asked by Dieter Schwampe and John Markianos-Daniolos, the Co-Chairs of the recently formed International Working Group on Unified Interpretation for Standard to Break Limitation Under IMO Conventions, to substitute the attached Questionnaire which corrects a typographical error in Questions 20 and 21 (which referred to Article 10(2) of the Bunkers Convention when they should have referred to Article 6). Our thanks to Taco van der Valk of The Netherlands for spotting the typographical error.

Last but not least, I remind you that the closing date for the 2020 yCMI Essay Prize is 30 April 2020 (the flyer prepared by John Hare outlining the topic and requirements for this year's yCMI Essay Prize can be found as an attachment to my letter of 19 December 2019).

On behalf of the Executive Council, thank you for your continued participation in the work of the CMI.

Yours faithfully,



Christopher O. Davis