COMITE MARITIME INTERNATIONAL

PRESIDENT

17th August 2026

Executive Councillors
Presidents of National Maritime Law Associations
Consultative Members
Titulary Members

Dear Presidents and friends

For those of us in the northern hemisphere, we are in the middle of the summer. This notwithstanding CMI work continues at an impressive rate and I have plenty I would like to report on.

Jorge Radovich RIP

I cannot however report on anything before I share with you the very sad news of the passing of a great pillar of the Comite Maritime International which on a personal level was not only a great shock but took me by complete surprise – Jorge Radovic.

I received the news of Jorge's passing two weeks ago from the President of the Argentinian Maritime Law Association, Diego Chami and it shocked me beyond words because only a very few short weeks before, Jorge and I were corresponding on the important work he was undertaking in chairing the IWG on Offshore Activities which has been extremely active in the preparation of a Draft Convention.

Jorge was hugely respected and loved by all in his own country and internationally. He will be dearly remembered for his passion for domestic and international maritime law; for his wisdom; for his determination and for his steadfastness and loyalty to the CMI which he loved and to which he contributed so wholeheartedly. Most specially he will be remembered for the loving and caring person that he was.

We will remember Jorge during our General Assembly in Valencia in March 2027.

To Liza and his children, and to his colleagues at the Argentinian Maritime Law Association our most sincere condolences.

MOB: +356 9947 4536 E-MAIL: ann.fenech@fenechlaw.com
REGISTERED OFFICE CMI, AISBL: Ernest Van Dijckkaai 8, B-2000, Antwerp, Belgium
Enterprise nº 0867 385 381
www.comitemaritime.org

Valencia 2027.

Meeting on Valencia 2027 are progressing very nicely and the programme is shaping up. We are meeting throughout the summer with the next meeting next week.

You would have seen in our LinkedIn announcement the video posted on Valencia. For those who missed it I am attaching it hereto https://comitemaritime.org/cmi-valencia-conference/

In the meantime may I please draw your attention to the important sponsorship opportunities available. Of course as you can no doubt appreciate the raising of sponsorship for our colloquia and conferences can make or break an event and it is considered a top priority. I would therefore like to encourage you to encourage all your members to consider participating in an extensive sponsorship program for Valencia and all the information is available from the Treasurer of the Spanish MLA Cristina Portuondo who you can contact on Cristina.portuondo@eu.rsagroup.com.

Titulary membership and Payments on line

Many thanks to those Titulary Members who have asked about making a contribution of Euro 100, to the CMI. We have been requested to set up a system for payment via credit card. This has been done. All one has to do is to go to the CMI website, go to the tab called "contributions" and follow the instructions.

We are in the process of setting up a pay pal account and as soon as this is up and running I will let you know.

Ship Recycling

In Rio EXCO had approved the setting up of an IWG on ship Recycling on the recommendation and suggestion of Peter Laurijssen. This IWG has now been formalised and we look forward to their deliberations. The chair of this IWG is Peter Laurijssen and the members are currently:

Bangladesh:	Capt. Mak
Brazil:	Carolina de Franca
Norway:	Nina Hanevold
Germany:	Sven Deters
Great Britain:	Nikos Mikelis

We wish this new IWG well and look forward to their contributions.

Restatement of Marine Insurance Law

Another decision taken by EXCO in Rio was following an idea put to EXCO by past Vice President Dieter Schwampe. Dieter proposed the creation of an IWG on the Restatement of Marine Insurance Law and Practice." EXCO approved this new IWG and we could not think of a better Chair than Dieter for this new IWG.

The IWG has already started to work in earnest and I am circulating with this letter a letter by Dieter to all the NMLAs with a request that you provide the IWG with texts of statutory marine insurance law as well as standard marine insurance terms in respect of hull and machinery as well as cargo insurance, generally used in your jurisdictions.

May I kindly ask that you provide Dieter with this information up until the 30th of November.

Ratification of conventions – UN Annual Treaty Event 22nd – 25th September 2026

A number of you will recall that the United Nations holds an Annual Treaty Event to coincide with the holding of the General Assembly of the United Nations during which countries are encouraged to deposit their instruments of ratification with regard to those UN Conventions where the Secretary General of the United Nations is identified as the Depository. We would like to invite you to view the UN web page containing information on the event: https://treaties.un.org/pages/TreatyEvents.aspx?path=Treaty/Focus/Page1_en.xml and to appeal to your respective governments to make use of this event to ratify conventions.

Last year the CMI and the ICS published a joint brochure on the "Promoting Maritime Treaty Ratification of International Maritime Conventions promoting the ratification of international maritime conventions - https://comitemaritime.org/work/maritime-conventions/.

There are of course a number of conventions which require ratification however it will not surprise you if I were to underline the importance of reminding you to remind your governments about the need to ratify the ***Convention on the International Effects of Judicial Sale of Ships*** which as you are fully aware came into force in February of this year with the EU adopting it in June of this year. We are fully aware of the fact that a number of EU Member states are now working on their internal domestic laws to enable their jurisdictions to accomodate the Convention and to enable them to ratify the Convention.

Let us continue to make this Convention a great success by securing more ratifications.

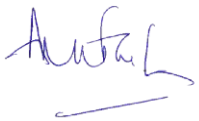
Standing committee on the ratification of the Rotterdam Rules and the Convention on Negotiable Cargo Documents.

On my own behalf and on behalf of EXCO and the whole of the CMI I would like to thank Past President Stuart Hetherington for the time, dedication and determination with which he chaired the standing committee on the ratification of the Rotterdam Rules, which later also incorporated the Convention on Negotiable Cargo Documents. Stuart informed us in Rio that he wished to stand down from being the chair and regretably my efforts at trying to convince him to stay on were not successful. A big thank you to Stuart from all of us for chairing this standing committee and stearing it through all its ups and downs with such passion and drive. I am however very happy to announce that we have identified the ideal successor to Stuart, and that is Jose Angelo Estrella Faria whose recent past makes him the perfect chair for this standing committee.

You will be hearing from Angelo in due course.

In the meantime dear friends enjoy what is rest of the summer in the northern hemisphere!

Yours sincerely



Ann Fenech