



# COMITÉ MARITIME INTERNATIONAL

PRESIDENT

To the Presidents of all National Maritime Law Associations

Cc: The Titulary Members

Oslo, 11 April 2012

Dear President,

## **Beijing Conference 14 – 19 October / Shanghai Add-On 20 – 22 October 2012**

The CMI Conference and Shanghai Add-On are now only six months away and I encourage you to register for what promises to be a most informative and enjoyable programme. The Maritime Law Association of China has worked very hard to make it a success and I am hopeful for a good turn-out from all parts of the world, including from your association.

The Conference website ([www.cmi2012beijing.org](http://www.cmi2012beijing.org)) is now operational and available for registration. It contains a wealth of information and we trust you will find it easy to register and book your hotel room for the Conference and, hopefully, the Add-On.

The substantive programme is, as usual, a work in progress taking into consideration the busy schedules of our world class speakers. However, you have enough now to see that an exciting programme lies ahead.

There are three subjects that you will wish to be particularly prepared for prior to the Conference:

KARL-JOHAN GOMBRII, KRISTINELUNDVEIEN 22, 0268 OSLO, NORWAY  
TEL: 47-915 35 603 E-MAIL: [kjgombrii@nordisk.no](mailto:kjgombrii@nordisk.no) FAX: +47- 22 43 00 35

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE: Everdijkstraat 43, 2000 Antwerp, Belgium  
TEL: +32-3-227-3526 E-MAIL: [admini@cmi-imec.org](mailto:admini@cmi-imec.org) FAX: +32-3-227-3528  
WEBSITE: <http://www.comitemaritime.org>

- 1) Recognition of Foreign Judicial Sales of Ships – a draft Instrument.
- 2) Salvage Convention 1989 – is there a need for revision?
- 3) York Antwerp Rules – YAR 2012?

You will note that these three topics may be the subject of voting at the plenary session on the morning of Friday 19 October 2012. Reports on the topics will be sent to you following the Executive Council meeting scheduled for the week of 23 April 2012.

You should also be prepared to participate in the Rotterdam Rules Question and Answer session on the Tuesday afternoon.

One of the sessions on the Friday morning is devoted to a discussion on the Future of the CMI in the Decades to Come. The CMI's relevance in the area and era of inter-governmental organisations has been questioned in some quarters. How should we change, if change is needed? (e.g. Working methods? Work programme? Closer liaison with e.g. UNCITRAL and IMO?).

You will also note that on the afternoon of Thursday 18 October there is a session where the Executive Council meets with the Presidents (or their nominees) of all NMLAs. I intend to circulate an Agenda beforehand which will include a) a review of the present relationship between NMLAs and the CMI arising from the answers to the two Questionnaires which were circulated on the subject, and b) the matters to be discussed on the Friday morning session on the Future of the CMI. I invite you to discuss this topic within your association before the Conference and submit a summary on your deliberations and suggestions by no later than two weeks prior to the Conference, i.e. by 1 October at the latest.

I kindly ask you to encourage your members to register, and hope to see you as the head of a strong delegation from your association in Beijing on 14 October and also, if your schedule permits, in Shanghai 20 – 22 October 2012.

In the meantime, I will be pleased to answer any questions you may have, whether in relation to the events in China, or in relation to the CMI and its work generally.

Yours sincerely,

