



COMITÉ MARITIME INTERNATIONAL

PRESIDENT

23 February 2022

NMLA Presidents
Titulary Members
Consultative Members

Re: *Francesco Berlingieri*

Dear Presidents, Titulary Members and Consultative Members,

I thought it appropriate to share with you the attached letter received today from the President of the Italian Maritime Law Association, Giorgio Berlingieri, commemorating the centenary of the birth of Francesco Berlingieri who was President of the Italian Maritime Law Association from 1982 to 2005, and President of the Comité Maritime International from 1976 to 1992.

Giorgio's moving tribute to his father enumerates only a few of the many honours which were conferred on Francesco during his lifetime for his contributions to the unification of maritime law, the Italian MLA, and the CMI. These include being acclaimed as Honorary President of the Italian MLA, President *ad honorem* of the CMI, receiving the title of Honorary Professor of International Maritime Law by the IMO International Maritime Law Institute, and being made an Honorary Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in 1993 by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Francesco was also conferred *honoris causa* degrees in law by the Universities of Antwerp, Athens and Bologna.

I take this opportunity to remind you the CMI will celebrate its 125th anniversary in Antwerp during its 19-21 October 2022 Conference, and the Berlingieri Lecture honouring Francesco's legacy to maritime law will be delivered by one of the CMI's esteemed Past Presidents, Patrick Griggs, before commencement of the Assembly on Friday, 21 October 2022.

TEL: +1 504 566 5251 E-MAIL: codavis@bakerdonelson.com FAX: +1 504 636 3951
REGISTERED OFFICE CMI, AISBL: Ernest Van Dijckkaai 8, B-2000 Antwerp, Belgium
Enterprise n° 0867 385 381
www.comitemaritime.org

I look forward to seeing you in Antwerp, and remain

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris O. Davis", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christopher O. Davis

COD/gef

cc: Executive Council