

The world is a family,  
 and all humankind are brothers and sisters.

<http://www.wmu-japan.net>

December  
 2017

## Nippon Fellows from Black Sea and Caspian Sea Region Established a Network Aiming to Protect the Oceans

**Anna Rabotnjova**  
 (Ukraine, 2012)

The Nippon Fellows Gathering for Black and Caspian Sea Region co-organized by the Government of Georgia and The Nippon Foundation of Japan was held in Tbilisi, Georgia on October 23-24, 2017.

The main objective of Nippon Fellows gathering in Georgia was to advance cooperation in order to enhance the experience of sharing related activities, as long as most of the Fellows held high positions either in their Government or in the private sector. The strengthening of understanding of the rules of International Maritime Law and the Law of the Sea, as well as cohesive consideration of maritime safety and environmental protection principles still remain challenges. Therefore, Georgia initiated this meeting with the aim to activate possible cooperation platforms in order to develop hand-in-hand experience sharing within the Black and Caspian Sea Region.

Participants included representatives of Turkey, Kazakhstan, Bulgaria, Romania, Armenia, Iran, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, USA, Ukraine and Georgia, as well as representatives of The Nippon Foundation from Japan. All of the participants were Nippon Fellows from ITLOS, IMLI, WMU, and DOALOS educational programmes.

The opening address was given by the Vice Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, Mr. Giorgi Cherkezishvili, and followed by addresses of the Chairman of The Nippon Foundation, Dr. Yohei Sasakawa and the Director of Maritime Transport Agency of the Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, Capt. Mamuka Akhaladze.

The first day of the meeting was quite intense and informative. The sessions were enriched with motivating Nippon success



stories and Fellows' reports from the representatives of all countries, which gave participants a brilliant opportunity to get acquainted with the national features of the ocean governance of other countries in the Region.

The essential problems of the Ballast Water Management Convention's slow entry into force and marine delimitation in the Region as well as the need of proper education and human resources were raised in the roundtable discussions and hotly debated by all representatives. At the end of the discussion, Dr. Sasakawa addressed the participants with a motivating and touching speech about the three aims the Chairman has dedicated his life to: Leprosy elimination, peace in Myanmar, and the sustainable development of ocean governance. Dr. Sasakawa also highlighted the main threats to the ocean and called upon all participants to act for the common cause. The Chairman also offered The Nippon Foundation's support for initiatives serving the achievement of this aim.

The second day started with the drafting of the Declaration of the Establishment of Nippon Fellows' network from the Black and Caspian Seas Region.

Discussions on the role of Nippon regional Fellows in the sustainable development of ocean governance took place afterwards. During the session participants presented their

vision on the needs and opportunities for regional cooperation development, improving the international ocean governance framework, as well as discussing how they could contribute to achieving better international governance of the oceans for the benefit of sustainable blue growth.

Later, the Declaration of the Establishment of Nippon Fellows' network from the Black and Caspian Sea Region was agreed to by all the participants. Concluding remarks by The Nippon Foundation representatives and organizers ended the meeting.

Georgia is well known all over the world for its hospitality, and the participants had a great chance to experience it for themselves. The organizers did not only give the Fellows a platform for sharing their ideas and points of view on essential issues, but also introduced amazing versatile and rich Georgian culture to the participants. The closure of the official program was followed with a city tour around beautiful sunny Tbilisi, which was a great bonus to the wonderful meeting.

I want to thank The Nippon Foundation and the organizers for such a precious opportunity to meet my colleagues and friends from the Black Sea and Caspian Sea Region, and I will be happy to keep in close touch with them aiming to make our Region development sustainable and green.

# WMU Conference in Lima, Peru, and Sasakawa Fellows around the World

Jesús A. Menacho Piérola  
(Peru, 2010)

I have quite a lot of things to share with you Fellows, and I am going to try to make it brief. In April 2016, during my tenure at IFC Singapore, I was invited by WMU to be a speaker for the WMU Symposium on Migration by Sea, with the topic “Assessment of the current situation of irregular human migration at sea in the area of interest of the IFC”. I took this opportunity to make the salutation, accompanied by LCDR Nora Benavides (Peru, 2016) to WMU President Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry, as well as spending some time with my classmate Safaa Al Fayyadh, who was finishing his PhD at WMU.



After that, I took time off to travel to Japan, visiting my good friend Mr. Eisuke Kudo, who invited my family and me to a wonderful evening at his home. I also visited my classmates Masashi Sugomori (Japan, 2010) and Shinji Usui (Japan, 2010).

Back again in Singapore, in August 2016, I met Poppy Sartika (Indonesia, 2009) who came from Indonesia for training, and we had a nice dinner with other WMU Graduates.

Also in August I participated in the Safety@Sea Week, organized by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA), where I met Mr. Kitack Lim, IMO Secretary General.

Holidays again, this time in Myanmar during October, visiting my classmates Swe Swe Zin (Myanmar, 2010) and Thida Win (Myanmar, 2010), as well as another Fellow, Kyaw Kyaw Myo Win (Myanmar, 2009). In January 2017, I



traveled to the United Arab Emirates, where I met WMU Past President Dr. Björn Kjerfve, current Chancellor of the American University of Sharjah.

In May, as part of the Peruvian Delegation, I participated in the Third Joint Ministerial Conference of the Paris and Tokyo MOUs on Port State Control in Vancouver, Canada, where I ran into Masashi Sugomori again, as well as Yusuke Mori (Japan, 2014). It was a good opportunity to meet the Tokyo MOU staff: Secretary Mr. Hideo Kubota, and Technical Officer Ning Zheng (China, 1993). With the IMO Secretary General, we went onboard the Japanese training ship KAIWO MARU, having a glimpse of the Japanese approach to effective MET.

During the 28th Meeting of the Tokyo MOU Port State Control Committee, held in Vladivostok, Russian Federation, last September, I met Nguyen Hai Nam (Vietnam, 2002), Director of the Maritime Administration of Ho Chi Minh City - Vietnam Maritime Administration, and Pham Hai Bang (Vietnam, 1998), Director of Seagoing Ship - Vietnam Register.

Finally, on October 23, for the first time, Lima held the WMU Regional Conference for the Americas, a partnership between WMU and the General Directorate of Captaincies and Coastguards (DICAPI), Maritime Authority of Peru.

The three-day event brought together over 200 participants from 22 countries across the Americas to address the topic of “Maritime and Port Sectors in the Americas - Challenges and opportunities in light of the SDGs”.

WMU President, Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry called on the region - which plays an important role in shipping and ports and which has one of the biggest ocean areas - to take advantage of the 456 WMU alumni, a global force of trained experts from the region, to address challenges, take advantage of the opportunities to support implementation of the UNSDGs in the maritime, ports sectors and with respect to the oceans.

Mr. Lawrence Barchue, WMU Class of 1991, Assistant Secretary-General, delivered remarks on behalf of IMO. Vice Admiral Manuel Vascones, General Director Captaincies and Coastguard, delivered



welcoming remarks and noted the strong ties between WMU and Peru, as well as Peru’s commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Agenda.

WMU Faculty members who participated as speakers or moderators included Professor Larry Hildebrand, Professor Takeshi Nakazawa and Associate Professor Maria Carolina Romero. In addition, several WMU alumni were speakers at the conference.

The event is the first of its kind in the region, highlighting the importance of postgraduate maritime education, research and capacity building for the Americas. As a result of the conference, a WMU Regional Alumni Association for the Americas will be established.

I was the Master of Ceremony for the WMU Conference. Analia Soledad Viggiano (Argentina, 2013) from Argentina was one of the speakers, and Nora Benavides from Peru participated as well.

As WMU alumni, and especially WMU Sasakawa Fellows, our world is small, and I am sure that our strong connections will keep increasing in time, which is crucial for the future of our countries, and consequently, our personal futures as well.





# Sasakawa Peace Foundation Officially Welcomes WMU Class of 2018 Fellowship Recipients

Elias Chiaca Mwenyo (Namibia, 2018)



The Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF) once again showed its benevolence by funding 30 students from Bangladesh, Benin, Cameroon, Cape Verde, East Timor, Egypt, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, India, Iraq, Japan, Liberia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo and Vietnam, to pursue post graduate degrees at the World Maritime University in Malmö. This year is historical as it recorded the highest number of Sasakawa Fellowship students at WMU.

In true SPF tradition, these students, who were all in attendance, were warmly welcomed at the orientation event on September 22, 2017, in the Sasakawa Auditorium at WMU. The event is an integral part of the SPF's annual calendar, as it creates a conducive platform to foster integration between the graduating Class of 2017 and the incoming Sasakawa sponsored students in a network that promotes and facilitates lifelong communication.

The event was officiated by Mr. Mirza Zee-shan Baig, as the Director of Proceedings, a student from the graduating Class of 2017 who could not hide his joy at being given the opportunity to advance his academic qualifications at the World Maritime University. The orientation program began with a group photograph of both Classes outside WMU, followed by opening remarks by Mr. Tsutomu Akita, Senior Specialist at SPF, who emphasized the importance of making connections with other Sasakawa Fellows. The purpose is to advance the network through nurturing and maintaining relationships among Fellows, independent of those activities



cultivated by SPF. This was followed by a presentation by Mr. Shinichi Ichikawa, providing information on the Sasakawa Fellowship Program and its relation to The Nippon Foundation and Japan's Boat Race. He delivered a synopsis of how revenue from the famous boat race is directed to philanthropic activities and how the fellowship program benefits from this noble gesture.

The Class of 2017 followed with presentations of their experience at WMU reflecting back to the time they arrived in Malmö, the third largest city in Sweden. Representatives from the different course specializations were: Leena Kagola (Namibia), Maritime Education & Training; Johan Solórzano (Honduras), Shipping Management & Logistics; Mohammad Azizul Moula (Bangladesh), Port Management; Aynur Maharanova (Azerbaijan), Maritime Law & Policy; Mohmmad Shahnawaz (India), Marine Safety & Environmental Administration; Mark Philip Cassar (Malta), Maritime Energy Management; and Rachel Bare-Anita (Solomon Islands), Ocean Sustainability, Governance and Management. Ms. Bare-Anita's presentation was very captivating because her specialization in the Class of 2017 was the first in the history of WMU and the Sasakawa Peace Foundation. Presenters shared valuable insights on ideal ways of coping with studies and how best to maximize learning opportunities during field studies, as well as not forgetting to have fun.

The most memorable experience that distinguished the Sasakawa Fellowship students from the others, according to the Class of 2017, was the very popular visit to Japan where they met Dr. Sasakawa, their benefactor, as one of the highlights. The opportunity to crisscross Japan and spend time at the boat race will forever leave a positive mark on their lives.

All 27 students from the Class of 2017 and 30 students from Class of 2018 were given the opportunity to introduce themselves as a start to expanding the network among Fellows. The event



also discussed the best ways to build and maintain the network. Preference was given to ever-expanding social media as a tool to keep the network alive. The Class of 2018 nominated Ngu Kay Khine (Myanmar) to be the focal point in updating the database of the 2017/18 students, and Naohiro Saito (Japan) was tasked with the responsibility of identifying a tool as a communication platform.

A reception followed at the WMU World Bistro, where students mingled and socialized in a more relaxed atmosphere. The event was graced with the presence of WMU President, Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry and her husband, who were generously interacting with students and sharing memorable experiences of their days as students. The WMU President thanked The Nippon Foundation for their extraordinary, ongoing support for maritime capacity-building by providing fellowships to WMU students, thereby equipping them with knowledge for the benefit of their nations and the world.

In the closing remarks, Nadeeka Jaysundara Mudiyansele (Sri Lanka) from the Class of 2017 extended profound gratitude on behalf of the 2017 recipients of The Nippon Foundation & SPF for providing a life-changing opportunity to them all. She also thanked the staff and management of the World Bistro for a delicious dinner. Special appreciation was also extended to Ms. Lyndell Lundahl, the WMU staff member who works tirelessly to make sure that Sasakawa Fellowship students are not stressed during their time in Malmö.



# IMO Technical Initiatives for GHG Emission Reductions from International Shipping



**Yasufumi Onishi**  
Japan Ship Technology  
Research Association

As you are all aware, measures for reducing GHG emissions from international shipping are considered to be outside the limits of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and a detailed review of emissions has been left up to the International Maritime Organization (IMO). Due to an increase in the volume of trade in tandem with the world's economic growth, GHG emissions in the area of international shipping are expected to increase significantly in the future, and there is a need for IMO to take active steps to address this issue. Therefore, IMO has been introducing and implementing measures in stages. I have participated in discussions on technical standards for GHG reductions in the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), and in this article I would like to present details of discussions to date and the current situation based on my experience.

In 2011, IMO decided to introduce the Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI) for newly built vessels, ahead of other transport modes. This index, based on the average value of fuel consumption of vessels built between 1999 and 2008, prescribes fuel consumption, i.e. the EEDI value, for new vessels built from 2013 onwards to be at or below the reference value (phase 0), to reduce it by 10% from the reference value (phase 1) from 2015, 20% (phase 2) from 2020, and 30% (phase 3) from 2025.

At the same time, under provisions of the MARPOL convention, development of energy saving technologies is to be reviewed and, if



necessary, the reduction rate or other requirements are to be revised in accordance with relevant provisions. A review of the EEDI phase 2 index (20% reduction from 2020) was conducted from MEPC67 in 2014 to MEPC70 in 2016, and after lengthy discussions, it was agreed that the 20% reduction would be maintained. During deliberations, an opinion that the reduction rate should be strengthened was expressed and, in light of this opinion, a decision was made to commence the next review after MEPC71 in 2017, which was initially set for around 2022, as a compromise proposal with a view to commencing phase 3 in 2022. In accordance with this agreement, a Correspondence Group (CG) for conducting the review was established at MEPC71 held in July this year, and it was agreed that a review of the EEDI requirements beyond phase 2 would be conducted. According to the review schedule of the CG, a recommendation for the requirements of Phase 3 will be made at MEPC73, and an overall recommendation will be made at MEPC74. I am serving as a coordinator of the CG, and hope to proceed with discussions that will lead to reasonable EEDI requirements based on the feasibility of applying energy saving technologies.

Furthermore, one of the outstanding issues regarding the EEDI is the risk of safety as a consequence of lowering engine power excessively to improve EEDI value, and a review is currently underway to establish new minimum power guidelines to maintain the same safety level. At the moment, while the interim guidelines have been put in place in time for the implementation of the phase 0 EEDI requirements, this is an interim measure and should be reviewed based on academic research. To this end, the SHOPERA project undertaken in Europe and the Japan project were fastidiously reviewed,

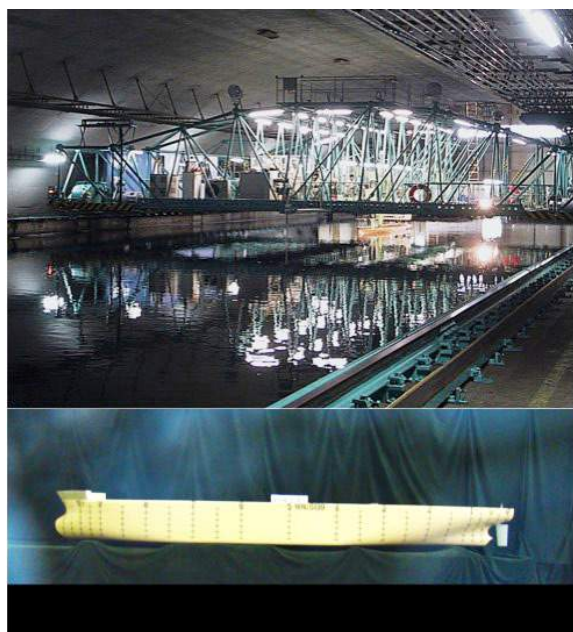
and draft guidelines based on the results of this review were reported at MEPC71. At MEPC71, however, there were some differences in opinion about adverse weather conditions, which were prerequisites. Therefore, it was agreed that current interim guidelines would be extended and that discussions for developing new guidelines would continue.

Vessels with relatively lower design speeds, such as tankers and bulkers in particular, lowering the design speed of the vessel to meet the EEDI requirements, which are being progressively strengthened, may be inevitable. However, if the minimum power requirement is set extremely high, it will be impossible to lower the design speed, and options for complying with the EEDI index may be lost. Therefore, it is desirable to set standards no higher than necessary and to formulate reasonable guidelines based on scientific evidence. To formulate reasonable standards, Japan will continue to work on technical considerations and strive to form a consensus through coordination with relevant countries.

In addition, IMO has also agreed to introduce a data collection system for fuel oil consumption of ships as a second stage measure following on from the EEDI regulations. This system will become effective in March 2018, and the reporting of data to IMO in 2019. Relevant guidelines have also been finalized, and I believe that this reporting system will contribute to IMO's review of GHG emission reduction measures in the future.

The above was a brief introduction to technical efforts carried out by IMO to reduce GHG emissions. In addition to the technical matters described above, IMO is also engaging in discussions to develop IMO Strategy on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships for further reductions in the future. Further efforts must also be made in the international shipping sector through discussions of the strategy.

I would be very happy to exchange opinions with anyone who is interested in this discussion. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at: [onishi@jstra.jp](mailto:onishi@jstra.jp)





# The Coast Guard Global Summit 2017 in Japan

Damrongkiat Kiatopas (Thailand, 2011)



On September 12, 2017, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe attended the welcome reception for the Coast Guard Global Summit held at Akasaka Palace State Guest House.

On September 14, 2017, I had the privilege of participating in the Coast Guard Global Summit (CGGS) 2017, which was co-hosted by the Japan Coast Guard (JCG) and The Nippon Foundation in Tokyo. The summit aimed to enhance collaboration and cooperation among Coast Guards worldwide in coping with new challenges such as maritime disasters, accidents, pollution, and crimes occurring across borders. It is probably the first meeting where Coast Guard Agencies from all around the world gathered together and discussed new cooperative frameworks.

Coast Guards and agencies with coastguard functions linked globally by the ocean have traditionally worked together to ensure safety of navigation, utilizing bilateral or multilateral frameworks. However, in recent years, the natural environment has changed dramatically on a global scale as climate change has brought more serious and extensive disasters. Moreover, changes in social environments and cross-cultural interactions across borders have

increased as threats of terrorism at sea, as well as maritime crime, are spreading. In order to deal with these global changes and challenges, multilateral cooperation on a global scale is necessary. The JCG initiated this new platform of dialogue and cooperation to share pioneer activities and to discuss and disseminate new cooperative measures among Coast Guard Agencies as first responders beyond the existing regional frameworks.

39 Coast Guard Agencies from 36 countries, together with the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC) participated in this big event. Dr. Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of The Nippon Foundation, offered his remarks as host, followed by a speech from Keiichi Ishii, the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan. The summit was chaired by Admiral Satoshi Nakajima, Commandant of the JCG, and focused mainly on 3 topics, including marine safety and marine environment protection, maritime security, and capacity building. At the end of the summit, the Chairman's Summary was



formally adopted by the Heads of the Coast Guard Agencies. It was confirmed that the Coast Guard Agencies will share the best practices and experiences in maritime safety, security and environment as well as education and training. In addition, a working level meeting will be created to further develop this new cooperative framework.

I was very proud to be the Thailand delegate and to take part in the summit, especially since it allowed me to see my classmates from the Japan Coast Guard Academy and the World Maritime University once again and strengthen our bonds and friendships. I really hope that these relationships will contribute to the future success of this summit.



# New Members of WMU Sasakawa Fellowship,

## Description:

30 new Sasakawa Fellowship Students in the class of 2018 joined the WMU Academic Program in the middle of September, 2017. These students are experts in their own right and are expected to excel in their chosen maritime courses under the stringent supervision of the best experts in the world in the maritime field. Upon the completion of their course, their new knowledge and skills shall contribute further to enhance their country's community.



### Md Harun Or Rashid

Assistant Chief, Planning Section, Ministry of Shipping

As a young bureaucrat in my government I am currently working as an Assistant Secretary at the Ministry of Shipping. I want to be a maritime policy maker for Bangladesh. At WMU I will learn about ocean sustainability, governance and management. After completing the MSc, I want to work on UN sustainable development goal no. 14 in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh  
W1701095 (OSGM)



### Michael Agyare Asiamah

Assistant Director Strategic Intelligence  
Defense Intelligence, Ghana Armed Forces

I hope to complete the program in good standing, and afterwards help to promote activities in the network in Ghana and West Africa in general. I will use my networking skills to connect with my schoolmates in other countries so as to exchange ideas on best practices for maritime safety and security.

Ghana  
W1701224 (MSEA)



### Fabrice Yéhonou Tchégbenton Metonwaho

Head of Pollution Prevention and Protection of Marine Environment Department / Port State Control Officer, Pollution Prevention and Protection of Marine Environment Department, Directorate of the Merchant Marine / Ministry of Infrastructures and Transports

My organization is currently facing many challenges. After completing my studies at WMU, I will be expected to help solve these challenges. For that, I will organize regular feedback sessions with my colleagues and collaborators. Furthermore, I will actively get involved in Sasakawa activities around the world.

Benin  
W1701243 (MSEA)



### Eleni Kelmali

Lieutenant Junior Grade, Central Port Authority of Mytilene  
Hellenic Coast Guard

I have been given a unique opportunity to enhance my professional qualifications and experience by studying at the World Maritime University. The Sasakawa Fellowship will aid in the accomplishment of this important step in my life.

Greece  
W1701247 (MLP)



### Etakong Tabeyang

Foreign Affairs Officer, Ministry of External Relations

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation has offered me an exceptional, priceless and once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to enhance my knowledge on marine and ocean activities as well as advance my carrier goals.

Upon graduation from WMU, I will use my academic and professional expertise in service of the maritime industry.

Cameroon  
W1701244 (OSGM)



### Aniruddha Chaki

Engineer and Ship Surveyor cum DDG (Tech)  
Mercantile Marine Dept. Haldia, Directorate General of Shipping, India

My resolution is to excel at WMU, and my primary objective is to live up to the expectations of my sponsor - the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, my employer, the Directorate General of Shipping, India, and my family, who have put their faith and confidence in me.

India  
W1701248 (MSEA)



### Paulo Sergio Rocha Sousa

Product Distribution Coordinator by Ship  
Distribution, ENACOL

To study at WMU has been my dream. I'm sure I will do well in Malmö, which will feel like being with my new family. I will gain knowledge to help my country solve some issues. My goal is to help my country and my company to develop and have a good future.

Cape Verde  
W1701232 (MSEA)



### Banshidhar Singh

Commandant (JG), Indian Coast Guard

Upon successful completion of the course, I will help my organization to formulate and implement national maritime policies which result in sustainable and judicious utilization of marine ecosystem goods and services, in compliance with international regulations and conventions. I will also endeavor to evolve better cooperation, regional as well as global, among maritime countries through experience and contacts gained at WMU.

India  
W1701250 (MSEA)



### Ivan Eder Mendes Mota Braz de Carvalho

Legal Advisor, Legal Department  
National Directorate of Maritime Transport Timor-Leste (DNMT)

As a new country, Timor-Leste acknowledges that there is a lack of human resources in the maritime sector, especially in developing a legal framework. I am sure the knowledge that I will learn at WMU will contribute to our future national policies and regulations in accordance with IMO standards.

Timor-Leste  
W1701245 (MLP)



### Adel Ali Desher

Captain - Harbor Pilot, Maritime Affairs Dept.  
General Company for Iraqi Ports (GCPI)

Studying at WMU represents a major turning point in my life. At the national level, I will use the science to develop the maritime sector in my country. Internationally, I will work with my colleagues in WMU after graduation to meet the challenges and problems facing the international maritime industry.

Iraq  
W1701251 (MSEA)



### Fawzy Fathalla Dekinesh

Lecturer & Course Coordinator for all liquid cargo petroleum, chemical and liquefied natural gas at the Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport, Natural Gas & Petrochemical Simulator Department at the Integrated Simulator Complex, Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport

I intend to play a role in the Sasakawa Fellows' network after my graduation, participating in Fellowship meetings & conferences, sending my research papers and dissertations to the network, and developing and maintaining professional and social relationships. I will also play a key role in my country for marine energy management.

Egypt  
W1701246 (MEM)



### Naohiro Saito

Deputy Director, Maritime Bureau  
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT)

What I learn at WMU will become invaluable knowledge and experience for me. When I go back to my country, I would like to contribute in terms of my career nationally and internationally.

Japan  
W1701252 (MEM)



### Giorgi Mamuladze

Head of Safety Department  
Safety Department, Maritime Transport Agency of Georgia

The World Maritime University is a place of great opportunities to gain theoretical knowledge with enhanced practical skills and meet people from all over the world. With the support of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, I will be honored to be a link and contributor of those experiences and innovations to my home country, Georgia.

Georgia  
W1701230 (MSEA)



### Georgian Kansuah

Company Executive Officer, Armed Forces of Liberia  
Ministry of National Defense, Liberia

I am honored to be part of the WMU family, especially as a Sasakawa Fellowship Student. I'm confident that with hard work I can achieve excellence in my studies, acquiring knowledge and practical skills that will enable me to have a meaningful and positive impact on the Liberian maritime sector.

Liberia  
W1701254 (MLP)



## Class of 2018

**Htet Khaing Kyi Lin**Instructor & Internal Auditor, Quality Management Control Department  
Wise Wish Marine Engineering Training Centre, Myanmar

I will deliver knowledge and share my experiences gained at WMU with the maritime education and training sector of my beloved country, Myanmar. I really appreciate being one of the Sasakawa Fellows, and it is my great honour to get this auspicious opportunity to make my dreams come true.

Myanmar

W1701255 (MET)

**Mohamed Amjath Mohamed Fahumy**Lecturer, Department of Maritime Transport Management & Logistics  
Ocean University of Sri Lanka

In my country's journey towards a sustainable blue economy, as an academic I would like to be a part of the capacity building process in the maritime field. Furthermore I would like to engage in research activities in the field of Maritime Transport and Logistics.

Sri Lanka

W1701257 (SML)

**Ng Kay Khine**Staff Officer, Department of Marine Administration, Myanmar  
Ministry of Transport and Communications

It is such a great honor to be granted a Sasakawa Fellowship that the big chance to study at WMU would fulfill my dream to become highly qualified in the maritime field and to be able to work towards the development of Myanmar's Maritime Industry with all my efforts.

Myanmar

W1701256 (MET)

**Wajira Vidhuranga Premathilaka**Terminal Systems Junior Manager  
Jaya Container Terminal - Operations Division, Sri Lanka Ports Authority

It is a great privilege to be awarded with this prestigious fellowship from the Sasakawa Peace Foundation. I am determined to work hard to do justice to this invaluable opportunity that I've been given, while thanking the honorable Chairman and all the staff for their kind understanding and efforts.

Sri Lanka

W1701021(PM)

**Elias Chiaca Mwenyo**Manager Business Development  
Commercial Department, Namibian Ports Authority

I intend to advocate for reform in the Namibian maritime industry to conform to international standards in preserving our oceans yet driving the blue economy agenda. Further, I hope to influence organizations within the maritime field to invest in human capital with special emphasis on maritime logistics for the betterment of global trade through shipping.

Namibia

W1701226 (SML)

**Theeratch Amphanthongpapakul**Transport Technical Officer (VTS Operator)  
Marine Department of Thailand, Vessel Traffic Control and Maritime Security Office

Studying at WMU through the Sasakawa Fellowship Program is a special opportunity and the beginning of my successful journey to gain knowledge and skills in the maritime field. This will enable me to share, participate and develop maritime solutions, especially vessel traffic management, in my country and among networks.

Thailand

W1701258 (SML)

**Hamed Damilare Ibrahim**Research Associate, Department of Aquaculture  
Nigerian Institute of Oceanography and Marine Research (NIOMR)

I hope to be a proactive, competent and responsible Ocean and Marine professional through a life-long learning commitment, research and knowledge. I want to work towards a sustainable future and development for my country, my region, and the International community.

Nigeria

W1701223 (OSGM)

**Kanchisa Deerd**Administrative Officer, Business Development and Marketing Department  
Port Authority of Thailand

I am very honored to be a part of the Sasakawa Fellowship and to have received the great opportunity to study at WMU. My main objectives are to enhance my knowledge, abilities and experience in the maritime field, which will certainly be useful for the Port Authority of Thailand and my country in the future.

Thailand

W1701259 (PM)

**Augustine Obomhereru Imhomoh**Senior Shipping Development Officer, Shipping Development  
Nigerian Maritime Administration & Safety Agency

I look forward to maximizing the opportunities The Nippon Foundation has offered me through WMU to acquire the specialized education needed to respond to various maritime challenges in my country. I will actively promote activities aimed at mitigating current and future climate change concerns among Sasakawa Fellows for a safer world.

Nigeria

W1701231 (MEM)

**Viyada Suriyakul Na Ayudhada**Assistant Chief, Corporate Strategy Department  
Port Authority of Thailand

I have received the greatest opportunity to sharpen my knowledge and skills at WMU, which will also lead me to have excellent friendships and a valuable network with various countries. Therefore, I will keep this network as a priority and utilize the expert skills and impressive experience gained to develop and enhance my country and neighbors as well.

Thailand

W1701260 (PM)

**Gustavo Adolfo Mejia**Lawyer, Resolutions and Inquiries of the General Directorate of Merchant  
Marine, Panama Maritime Authority

My dream of actively representing my country as a delegate in one of the meetings at the International Maritime Organization is becoming more of a reality thanks to the great experience and knowledge that I will acquire in different lectures at the World Maritime University.

Panama

W1701229 (MLP)

**N'Hôboutoun Santa**Junior legal advisor, Legal department  
Direction of Maritime Affairs, Ministry of Infrastructures and Transports

The World Maritime University, through its programme of Master of Science in maritime affairs, is a great institution to help me acquire knowledge in the maritime field. As a senior legal advisor, after completion of the programme, I will be skilled enough to carry out my responsibilities.

Togo

W1701261 (MLP)

**Eduardo Israel Zamora**Head of Maritime Environmental Issues, Maritime Environmental Issues  
Peruvian Maritime Authority, General Directorate of Captaincies and Coast Guard

Peru is a country that has many challenges in maritime affairs and doesn't have many specialists in ocean sustainability and governance. Thanks to The Nippon Foundation, studying at WMU will offer me a great opportunity to promote real change when returning to my country.

Peru

W1701227 (OSGM)

**Minh Quang Nguyen**Official, Legal Affairs Department  
Maritime Administration of Danang

It's my goal to gain not only professional knowledge but also skills during my time in Malmö, which will serve my organization after graduation. Moreover I can set up connections with friends from all over the world to exchange ideas or help one another in the future.

Viet Nam

W1701071 (MSEA)

**Pamela Dela Cruz Dolina**Coast Guard Commander / Former Secretary Coast Guard Staff  
Department of Transportation, Philippine Coast Guard

I would like to inspire and encourage women in the maritime field for us to make a difference and contribute to the betterment of the maritime world. I would also like to promote the noble ideals of the Sasakawa Foundation and support friendship amongst its entire Family.

Philippines

W1701076 (MET)

**Manh Xuan Nguyen**Official, Maritime Safety and Security Department  
Vietnam Maritime Administration

The M.Sc. course at the World Maritime University suits my interests. With WMU's intensive study program, I strongly believe that my qualifications will be the springboard to developing my career. The knowledge and skills that I gain will help me perform my future tasks in improving Vietnam's maritime safety.

Viet Nam

W1701225 (MSEA)



**Tomotsugu Noma (Japan, 2016)**

I am pleased to inform everyone that I got married!! We had the wedding ceremony on September 24 in the Japanese traditional way. On our wedding day, we thought that there was no one happier than us. I couldn't imagine how memorable and happy that day would be, even though I had heard from many married people beforehand. I was especially grateful to have my host family and Friends of WMU from Sweden, Chile, Colombia, ROK and Thailand as my guests, coming to attend my wedding from far away. I can't thank them enough. Hopefully, they enjoyed their stay in Japan.

Before we got married and while I was in Malmö, we were in a long-distance relationship, which was quite difficult, not being able to spend time together. I am very grateful to my wife who had the patience to wait for me. Also, I think this deepened our bond.

And now, a new life has begun! We have a lot of time to spend together and enjoy!



**Chihebeddine Badir (Tunisia, 2015)**

August 2017 was a special month for me, as I celebrated both my birthday and my wedding. Just 2 years after finishing my studies and graduating from WMU, I decided to ask my love for her hand in marriage and start a happy and new life. Everything is perfect. My wedding was a Tunisian traditional ceremony par excellence.

My honeymoon experience was really amazing. Tabarka was our destination. It is conveniently located in northwestern Tunisia. We enjoyed a mix of relaxation and adventure. Tabarka is a gorgeous place with breathtaking views, sunsets and high hills hugging the sea. I shouldn't forget the most delicious food that I have ever tasted and the jazz festival. We loved the place so much that I promised my wife to revisit it soon. Before returning home I gave her a very beautiful red coral necklace as a souvenir of Tabarka, which is famous for its coral. We came back home with tons of happy memories and beautiful photos.

Marriage has already brought us wonderful moments full of love, joy and harmony.

I also really appreciated the warm compliments and kind greetings from my WMU Friends on Facebook. I would like to especially thank Dr. Sasakawa for allowing me to become a member of the Fellows, and I am thankful to The Nippon Foundation and SPF for giving me the opportunity to share my experience.



**Sadaharu Koga (Japan, 2015)**

I am Sadaharu Koga, a S15 Sasakawa Fellow from Japan. How are you, my dear friends?

Here in this newsletter, I would like to share good news with you. This September, around two years after graduating from WMU, I got married. My wife, Hisako Kubo, works in the maritime sector at the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism. As we got to know each other just one month before my departure for Sweden in 2014, we had to endure being separated for one and a half years. But, thankfully, she waited for me. After I came back home, we spent two fun years together, and finally got married.

What made me even happier is that some of my friends from S14, S15 and S16 came to our wedding ceremony! Sura, Han, Maki, Masa and Tomo, sharing my happiness with you was such a great pleasure. Thank you very much.

As for business, I am currently working in the field of international agreement for free trade at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Although my job is tough and challenging, what I learned at WMU always helps me find a solution in various ways. I would like to express again my sincere gratitude to The Nippon Foundation and the Sasakawa Peace Foundation for giving me this golden opportunity for growth.

Last but certainly not least, I am wishing you, my friends all over the world, exciting lives with lots of happiness. I am looking forward to meeting you again sometime, somewhere.



**Sophal Laska (Cambodia, 2006)**

On June 23, 2017 my life was changed forever, because on that day I became a father.

When my wife, Sarah Kate Thompson, and I found out we were having a baby boy we were overjoyed, knowing that our little family was about to get bigger. As I felt my baby boy kick and grow I felt excited and nervous about the time ahead. Would I be a good father?

During my wife's pregnancy I learned many things, most importantly, that raising a child is not easy! Especially when the culture of each parent is so different. As an Englishwoman, my wife faced many cultural challenges and helped me to see the importance of understanding the values that a parent can pass on to their child. As a child of Cambodian and English parents, we hope our son will grow to understand our core shared values and become a global citizen.

And so, on the 22nd of June, my wife told me that we would have a long night ahead of us because our baby boy was coming! The time we had prepared for was coming and there was no more time to wonder what sort of a father I would be. Our son, Sophal William Sereivudh, was born at a healthy 3.2kg the next night, and as I held him in my arms I knew that I would do anything for him.

Now, if you are already a parent you will know what the next few nights were like for my wife and me. If not, then imagine what it is like to be woken every 2 hours by a crying baby, who only wants to eat, fill his nappy and be held close. Raising a child is definitely not easy! Yet, in these first few weeks I have felt a love for my son that can only grow, as he will in the years to come.

*Editor's note*

I have been working as Section Chief of the Japan PSC office, Maritime Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism for almost 3 years, outside of my original workplace, the Japan Agency of Maritime Education and Training. Because I had no experience as a PSC officer, this job was quite tough initially. However, thanks to my experience onboard and knowledge gained at WMU, I can now say I am very confident in my job. PSC is now recognized as one of the most important activities to improve the safety of ships and personnel onboard, and to protect the marine environment. PSC officers conduct inspections to confirm whether ships have complied with safety and marine protection standards based on the requirements of international conventions. Therefore, the Section Chief is also required to have a wide understanding of the conventions. Because of this job, I have gained a great amount of knowledge and also have had opportunities to attend several IMO meetings, such as III and HTW sub-committees, where I was able to expand my personal network.

In addition, I was proudly appointed as an editorial member of this newsletter. This opportunity also gave me a great chance to find out about the latest maritime issues and voices from the maritime industry.

The time for me to return to my original workplace is at hand, as I am going to go back to the field of Maritime Education and Training for a while.

I wish you good luck with your lives and jobs. Bon voyage!



**Yusuke Mori**  
MLIT

**This newsletter is published under a grant from The Nippon Foundation** to promote communication among the Sasakawa Fellows of WMU (World Maritime University) and edited by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation in cooperation with Prof. Toshio Hikima, Mr. Yusuke Mori, Mr. Yasufumi Onishi, Mr. Eisuke Kudo and Ms. Sue Jackson.

Friends of WMU, Japan Secretariat, The Sasakawa Peace Foundation  
The Sasakawa Peace Foundation Bldg., 1-15-16 Toranomon, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-8524 Japan  
Tel: +81-(0)3-5157-5263 Fax: +81-(0)3-5157-5230 URL: <http://www.spf.org/e/>

