



**INTERNATIONAL MERCHANT MARINE REGISTRY OF BELIZE
“IMMARBE”**

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(IMMARBE)

IMMARBE wishes to announce that its Director General, Mr. Angelo Mouzouropoulos, will be retiring after 43 years in the shipping industry. He will be transferring his responsibilities at IMMARBE to his successor, Mr. Encarnacion Samaniego Medina, on 30th January 2009 and will leave the organization on 29th February 2009.

During Mr. Mouzouropoulos' 7 ½ year tenure, IMMARBE has attained many noteworthy quality achievements:

- A considerable improvement in Port State Control records including the attainment of the prestigious designation of "Qualship 21 Registry" by the U.S. Coast Guard for the fourth year in succession.
- An improvement in the statistics for very serious casualties which have dropped to 0.39% of its fleet in 2008 against a world average of 1.81%. Also, there have been no oil pollution incidents resulting from such casualties during the last 7 years.
- An improvement in the prevention of illegal activities - no incidents of trafficking in drugs, contraband, illegal weapons or humans since 2005.
- The attainment of ISO9001-2000 certification.
- The effective implementation of Fishing Vessel Compliance and Enforcement. IMMARBE/Belize is now the Open Registry with the largest number of memberships in Regional Fisheries Management Organizations in the world.
- The introduction of IMMARBE's Codes of Standards for Super Yachts, Large Yachts, and Small Yachts. IMMARBE is the only ship registry in the world to have developed regulations for yachts between 3000 GT and 5000 GT as well as for the certification of officers serving thereon.
- A considerable improvement in the reputation of IMMARBE in the shipping industry, its institutions as well as in the maritime Press.
- A substantial improvement in revenues.

Mr. Mouzouropoulos' successor, Mr. Encarnacion Samaniego Medina, a Panamanian national, has had an extensive and successful career with the Panama Canal Authority and the Panama Maritime Authority. He is expected to continue the development of IMMARBE. We wish him good luck and much success.

Mr. Mouzouropoulos will retire in Belize and will follow with interest IMMARBE's progress in the future. The management and staff of IMMARBE wish to express their profound gratitude for his leadership, hard work and achievements. We wish him good health and a long and happy retirement.