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# PRESS RELEASE

Crisis? What crisis?

*International Congress of Maritime Arbitrators in Hamburg to be well attended*

**Hamburg, 3 September 2009:**

The economic crisis has had quite a surprising effect on ICMA XVII, the Seventeenth International Congress of Maritime Arbitrators, which will take place in Hamburg, Germany, from 5 to 9 October 2009. While the consequences of the downturn of the shipping market will be one of many topics to be discussed during the conference, the number of attending arbitrators, lawyers and experts from the world of shipping does not show any sign of decrease. Clearly, the legal market of maritime arbitration has not suffered. Earlier this week the Host Committee published the detailed programme, lasting for one full week, on [www.icma2009.org](http://www.icma2009.org). In 20 different sessions almost 80 speakers from all over the world will address the delegates on various issues concerning shipping and arbitration. Excursions and social functions will provide a chance for communication and collaboration between the key players in maritime arbitration. Patrick O' Donovan, Chairman of the ICMA Steering Committee said: "The Hamburg Conference will be a successful milestone in the long history of ICMA".