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BUNKERS.1/Circ.65
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**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON CIVIL LIABILITY FOR
BUNKER OIL POLLUTION DAMAGE, 2001**

Accession by Turkey

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage, 2001, and to state that, in accordance with article 12, accession by the Republic of Turkey was effected by the deposit of an instrument on 12 September 2013.

The instrument of accession by Turkey contained the following declaration:

"In acceding to the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage, 2001, the Republic of Turkey dissociates itself from the references made in this Convention to the international instruments that it is not party to, including the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea, 1982. The accession of Turkey to the 2001 Bunker Convention cannot be interpreted as a change in the legal position of Turkey with regard to the said instruments.

In relation to article 2(a)(ii) of this Convention, the Republic of Turkey considers that this article is not in conformity with international law and defines those maritime areas as high seas whereby no country has jurisdiction and sovereign rights according to international law. The Republic of Turkey however, taking into consideration the objectives of this Convention, reserves its rights deriving from the Convention. Within this context, the Republic of Turkey hereby declares that in maritime areas where there has been no delimitation agreement between opposite of adjacent coastal States, the exercise of authority or any claim thereof under this Convention by any Coastal States Party to this Convention, creates no rights or obligations with regard to delimitation of maritime areas, nor does it create a precedent for the future agreements between those States concerning the delimitations of maritime areas under national jurisdiction.

Finally, in relation to the implementation of article 9 of this Convention, the Republic of Turkey hereby declares that it would only take into account the jurisdiction of the courts of the States Parties that have diplomatic relations with Turkey."

The Convention will enter into force for Turkey on 12 December 2013, in accordance with the provisions of article 14.

There are, at present, seventy-three States Parties to the Convention, representing approximately 90.65 per cent* of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.

* This tonnage percentage is based on world tonnage figures provided by IHS-Fairplay, effective as of 31 December 2012. Tonnage figures are liable to fluctuate from year to year.