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BWM.1/Circ.26
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**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF
SHIPS' BALLAST WATER AND SEDIMENTS, 2004**

Accession by Germany

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004, and to state that accession by the Federal Republic of Germany was effected by the deposit of an instrument on 20 June 2013.

Article 18 of the Convention provides as follows:

"1 This Convention shall enter into force twelve months after the date on which not less than thirty States, the combined merchant fleets of which constitute not less than thirty-five per cent of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping, have either signed it without reservation as to ratification, acceptance or approval, or have deposited the requisite instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession in accordance with article 17."

There are, at present, thirty-seven Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 30.32 per cent* of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.

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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.

