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**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE CONTROL
AND MANAGEMENT OF SHIPS' BALLAST WATER
AND SEDIMENTS, 2004**

Accession by Mexico

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 United Mexican States was effected by the deposit of an instrument on 18 March 2008.

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 percent 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 accordance with Article 17.”

There are, at present, thirteen Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 3.62% of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.