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

Accessions by Japan and Turkey

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 Japan was effected by deposit of an instrument on 10 October 2014 and accession by the Republic of Turkey was effected by deposit of an instrument on 14 October 2014.

The instrument of accession of Japan was accompanied by the following declaration:

"...the Government of Japan reserves the right to perform its obligations on the ballast water management for ships under the provisions of regulation B-3 of the Annex to the Convention in accordance with the recommendations in Resolution A. 1088(28) adopted by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization."

The instrument of accession of Turkey was accompanied by the following declaration:

"The Republic of Turkey dissociates itself from the references made in paragraph 1 of the Preamble of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004, to the international instruments that it is not party to, including the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea, 1982. Accession to the said Convention by Turkey cannot be construed as a change in the legal position of Turkey with regards to the said instruments."

The conditions for entry into force of this Convention have not yet been fulfilled. Article 18(1) of the Convention provides as follows:

"1 This Convention shall enter into force twelve months after the date on which not less than 30 States, the combined merchant fleets of which constitute not less than 35% 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, 43 Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 32.54%* 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 2013. Tonnage figures are liable to fluctuate from year to year.