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**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE CONTROL OF HARMFUL
ANTI-FOULING SYSTEMS ON SHIPS, 2001**

Extension by the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to state that he received, on 8 October 2010, a notification from the Kingdom of the Netherlands that the application of the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships, 2001, was extended to the islands of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba with effect from 10 October 2010.

From that date, the Netherlands Antilles has ceased to exist as an autonomous country within the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The Netherlands Antilles formerly comprised five islands, i.e. Curaçao, Sint Maarten, Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba. Curaçao and Sint Maarten are now separate autonomous countries within the Kingdom; whereas Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba are now public entities and, as such, part of the Netherlands, constituting the Caribbean part of the Netherlands. At present the Kingdom of the Netherlands consists of four autonomous countries: The Netherlands (including Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba), Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten. In principle, all international agreements ratified by the Kingdom, for the Netherlands Antilles, including reservations made, continue to apply to the islands of Curaçao, Sint Maarten, Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba.

For further information on the restructuring of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, please refer to Circular letter No.3114, dated 21 October 2010.

There are, at present, forty-eight Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 75.27%* of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.

* This tonnage percentage is based on world tonnage figures provided by Lloyd's Register/Fairplay, effective as of 31 December 2009.