

4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT
LONDON SE1 7SR
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611 Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

Ref. B1/J/1.02

AFS.1/Circ.39
8 March 2011

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

**Accession by China and extension to the Macao Special Administrative Region
of the People's Republic of China**

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships, 2001, and to state that, in accordance with article 17 of the Convention, accession by the People's Republic of China was effected by the deposit of an instrument on 7 March 2011.

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

"In accordance with the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "the PRC") and the Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the PRC, the Government of the PRC decides that the Convention applies to the Macao Special Administrative Region of the PRC, and unless otherwise notified by the Government, shall not apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the PRC."

The Convention will enter into force for China and the Macao Special Administrative Region on 7 June 2011, in accordance with the provisions of article 18(3).

There are, at present, fifty Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 78.70%* 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. Tonnage figures are liable to fluctuate from year to year.