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

**Accession by the Islamic Republic of Iran**

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 Islamic Republic of Iran was effected by the deposit of an instrument on 6 April 2011.

The instrument of accession of the Islamic Republic of Iran contained the following declaration:

"... the implementation of the provisions of article 14 of the Convention, relating to Settlement of Disputes is subject to fulfilment of the requirements of the relevant domestic rules and regulations."

The Convention will enter into force for the Islamic Republic of Iran on 6 July 2011, in accordance with the provisions of article 18(3).

There are, at present, fifty-one Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 78.81%\* 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 Lloyd's Register/Fairplay, effective as of 31 December 2009. Tonnage figures are liable to fluctuate from year to year.