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**PROTOCOL OF 1992 TO AMEND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON  
CIVIL LIABILITY FOR OIL POLLUTION DAMAGE 1969**

**Accession by Turkey**

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the Protocol of 1992 to amend the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969, and to state that accession by the Republic of Turkey was effected by the deposit of an instrument on 17 August 2001, in accordance with article 12.

The Protocol will enter into force for Turkey on 17 August 2002 in accordance with the provisions of article 13 of the Protocol.

The instrument of accession by Turkey contained the following declaration:

“In relation to Article II/a(ii) of this Convention, the Republic of Turkey considers that this Article is not in conformity with international law and it defines those maritime areas as high seas whereby no country has jurisdiction and sovereign rights according to international law. The Republic of Turkey, however, taking into consideration the objectives of this Convention, reserves its rights deriving from the Convention. Within this context, the Republic of Turkey hereby declares that in maritime areas where there has been no delimitation agreement between opposite or adjacent coastal States, the exercise of authority or any claim thereof under this Convention by any coastal State Party to this Convention, creates no rights or obligations with regard to delimitation of maritime areas, nor does it create a precedent for the future agreements between those States concerning the delimitation of maritime areas under national jurisdiction.”

The instrument was also accompanied by the following objection to a reservation made by the then Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on its accession to the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969:

“The Republic of Turkey has taken note of the reservation made by the then Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on its accession on 24 June 1975 to the Convention, concerning article XI(2) of the Convention.

The Republic of Turkey hereby declares that it cannot accept the aforementioned reservation. The Republic of Turkey considers that international law does not grant a State right to immunity from jurisdiction of the courts of another State in proceedings concerning civil liability in respect of a State-owned ship used for commercial purposes.”

There are, at present, seventy-one Contracting States to the Protocol.