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

Accession by China and extension to the Macao Special Administrative Region

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, in accordance with article 17(3) of the Convention, accession by the People's Republic of China was effected by the deposit of an instrument on 22 October 2018.

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

"In accordance with the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, and the Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, the Convention shall apply to the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, and the Convention shall not apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China until otherwise notified by the Government of the People's Republic of China."

The Convention will enter into force for China and the Macao Special Administrative Region on 22 January 2019, in accordance with article 18(3) of the Convention.

There are, at present, 79 Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 80.94%* of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.

* Tonnage calculated as of 22 October 2018, based on world tonnage figures provided by IHS Maritime and Trade current as of 31 December 2017.