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**1996 PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION OF MARINE  
POLLUTION BY DUMPING OF WASTES AND OTHER MATTER, 1972**

**Accession by the Islamic Republic of Iran**

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972, and to state that, in accordance with article 24(3), accession by the Islamic Republic of Iran was effected by deposit of an instrument on 23 November 2016.

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

"Noting that, the implementation of provision of Article 16 and Annex 3 of the protocol on settlement of dispute by means of Arbitral Procedure, is subject to fulfilment of the requirements of Article 139 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran and related domestic laws and regulations;

Noting, according to Article 16(5) of the Protocol, when the Islamic Republic of Iran is a party to a dispute about the interpretation or application of Articles 3.1 or 3.2, its consent will be required before the dispute may be settled by means of the Arbitral Procedure set forth in Annex 3;

Also noting, that the implementation of the provisions of Articles 21 and 22 of the Protocol is subject to fulfilment of the requirements of Article 77 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran".

The Protocol will enter into force for the Islamic Republic of Iran on 23 December 2016, in accordance with article 25(2) of the Protocol. There are, at present, 48 Contracting States to the Protocol.

The instrument of accession of the Islamic Republic of Iran contained the explicit acceptance of the 2009 amendment to the Protocol (article 6), adopted by the fourth Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Protocol on 30 October 2009, by resolution LP.3(4). There are, at present, four acceptances of the amendment.