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**PROTOCOL OF 1988 RELATING TO THE INTERNATIONAL  
CONVENTION ON LOAD LINES, 1966**

**Accession by Gabon**

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the Protocol of 1988 relating to the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966, and to state that accession by the Gabonese Republic was effected by deposit of an instrument on 17 April 2019, in accordance with article IV(2) of the Protocol.

The Protocol will enter into force for Gabon on 17 July 2019, in accordance with article V(3) of the Protocol.

There are, at present, 113 Contracting States to the Protocol, representing approximately 97.25%\* of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.

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\* Tonnage calculated as of 17 April 2019 based on world tonnage figures provided by IHS Maritime and Trade current as of 31 December 2018.