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**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING,
CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR SEAFARERS, 1978**

Accession by Guinea-Bissau

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, and to state that, in accordance with article XIII, accession by the Republic of Guinea-Bissau was effected by deposit of an instrument on 24 October 2016.

The Convention will enter into force for Guinea-Bissau on 24 January 2017, in accordance with article XIV.

There are, at present, 162 Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 99.20%* of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.

* Tonnage calculated as at 24 October 2016 based on world tonnage figures provided by IHS Maritime & Trade current as of 30 September 2016.