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

Accession by Costa Rica

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 Costa Rica was effected by deposit of an instrument on 6 June 2018.

The instrument of accession was accompanied by the following declaration:

"Article 3 – The Government of the Republic of Costa Rica interprets, in relation to article XII of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, that [future] amendments shall enter into force for the country once they have been approved by the Legislative Assembly and ratified by the executive authority."

The Convention will enter into force for Costa Rica on 6 September 2018, in accordance with article XIV.

There are, at present, 163 Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 99.14%* of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.

* Tonnage calculated as at 6 June 2018 based on world tonnage figures provided by IHS Maritime and Trade current as of 31 December 2017.