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AFS.1/Circ.74
30 November 2018

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE CONTROL OF
HARMFUL ANTI-FOULING SYSTEMS ON SHIPS, 2001**

Accession by Turkey

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships, 2001 and to state that, in accordance with article 17(3) of the Convention, accession by the Republic of Turkey was effected by the deposit of an instrument on 30 November 2018.

The instrument of accession by Turkey was accompanied by the following declaration:

"Turkey is not a party and has objected to UNCLOS from the outset due to a number of serious shortcomings. Turkey believes that the said Convention does not reflect the customary international law of the sea as a whole. Accordingly, Turkey dissociates itself from the references made in the 'International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships, 2001' to the international instruments that it is not Party to. These references therefore should not be interpreted as a change in the legal position of Turkey with regard to the said instruments."

The Convention will enter into force for Turkey on 28 February 2019, in accordance with article 18(3) of the Convention.

There are, at present, 82 Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 94.76%* of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.

* Tonnage calculated as of 30 November 2018, based on world tonnage figures provided by IHS Maritime and Trade current as of 31 December 2017.