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8 February 2018

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT  
OF SHIPS' BALLAST WATER AND SEDIMENTS, 2004**

**Accession by Qatar**

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004, and to state that, in accordance with article 17(3) of the Convention, accession by the State of Qatar was effected by the deposit of an instrument on 8 February 2018.

The Convention will enter into force for Qatar on 8 May 2018, in accordance with article 18(3) of the Convention.

There are, at present, 68 Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 75.08%\* of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.

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\* Tonnage calculated as at 8 February 2018 based on world tonnage figures provided by IHS Maritime and Trade current as of 31 December 2017.