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

Accession by Bulgaria

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 Republic of Bulgaria was effected by the deposit of an instrument on 30 April 2018.

The Convention will enter into force for Bulgaria on 30 July 2018, in accordance with article 18(3) of the Convention.

There are, at present, 71 Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 75.15%* of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.

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