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

Accession by Gabon

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 Gabonese Republic was effected by the deposit of an instrument on 17 April 2019.

The Convention will enter into force for Gabon on 17 July 2019, in accordance with article 18(3) of the Convention.

There are, at present, 81 Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 80.76%* of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.

* Tonnage calculated as of 17 April 2019, based on world tonnage figures provided by IHS Maritime and Trade current as of 31 December 2018.