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**HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFE AND  
ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND RECYCLING OF SHIPS, 2009**

**Accession by Panama**

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009, and to state that accession by the Republic of Panama was effected by deposit of an instrument on 19 September 2016.

The instrument of accession was accompanied by the following declaration:

"In accordance with article 16, paragraph 6 of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009, the Government of the Republic of Panama declares that it will require explicit approval of the Ship Recycling Plan before a ship may be recycled in its authorized Ship Recycling Facility(ies)."

The conditions for entry into force of this Convention have not yet been fulfilled. Article 17(1) of the Convention provides as follows:

"This Convention shall enter into force 24 months after the date on which the following conditions are met:

- .1 not less than 15 States have either signed it without reservation as to ratification, acceptance or approval, or have deposited the requisite instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession in accordance with Article 16;
- .2 the combined merchant fleets of the States mentioned in paragraph 1.1 constitute not less than 40 per cent of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping; and
- .3 the combined maximum annual ship recycling volume of the States mentioned in paragraph 1.1 during the preceding 10 years constitutes not less than 3 per cent of the gross tonnage of the combined merchant shipping of the same States."

There are, at present, five Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 20.36%<sup>1</sup> of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping. The combined annual ship recycling volume of the Contracting States during the preceding 10 years is 0.00002% of the merchant shipping tonnage of the same States<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Tonnage calculated as at 19 September 2016, based on world tonnage figures provided by IHS Maritime and Trade current as of 8 September 2016.

<sup>2</sup> Recycling data provided by IHS Maritime and Trade and based on the volumes recycled between 2006 and 2015.