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**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM  
SHIPS, 1973, AS MODIFIED BY THE PROTOCOL OF 1978 RELATING THERETO**

**Accession by Guinea-Bissau**

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL), and to state that, accession by the Republic of Guinea-Bissau was effected by deposit of an instrument on 24 October 2016, in accordance with article IV, paragraph 2 of the Protocol. The accession by Guinea-Bissau includes Optional Annexes III, IV and V.

MARPOL will enter into force for Guinea-Bissau on 24 January 2017, in accordance with article V, paragraph 2 of the Protocol. In accordance with article 15(5) of the Convention, Optional Annexes III, IV and V will also enter into force for Guinea-Bissau on 24 January 2017.

There are, at present, 155 Contracting States to MARPOL, representing approximately 99.14%\* of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.

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\* Tonnage calculated as at 24 October 2016 based on world tonnage figures provided by IHS Maritime & Trade current as of 30 September 2016.