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**PROTOCOL OF 1988 RELATING TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
ON LOAD LINES, 1966**

**Accession by Belarus**

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the Protocol of 1988 relating to the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966 and to state that accession by the Republic of Belarus was effected by deposit of an instrument on 5 December 2016, in accordance with article IV of the Protocol.

The Protocol will enter into force for Belarus on 5 March 2017, in accordance with article V(3).

There are, at present, 104 Contracting States to the Protocol, representing approximately 95.91%\* of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.

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\* Tonnage calculated as at 5 December 2016 based on world tonnage figures provided by IHS Markit current as of 30 September 2016.