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**PROTOCOL OF 1997 TO AMEND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE  
PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS, 1973, AS MODIFIED  
BY THE PROTOCOL OF 1978 RELATING THERETO**

**Accession by Saint Lucia**

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the Protocol of 1997 to amend the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto and to state that accession by Saint Lucia was effected by deposit of an instrument on 26 May 2016.

The Protocol will enter into force for Saint Lucia on 26 August 2016, in accordance with article 6(2) of the Protocol.

There are, at present, 87 Contracting States to the Protocol, representing approximately 95.69%\* of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.

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\* This tonnage percentage is based on world tonnage figures provided by IHS-Fairplay, effective as of 30 April 2016.