



Ref.: SCBD/SPS/CG/JSH/mw/85786

12 September 2016

NOTIFICATION

International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments to enter into force

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention) will enter into force on 8 September 2017. Under the Convention's terms, ships will be required to manage their ballast water to remove, render harmless, or avoid the uptake or discharge of aquatic organisms and pathogens within ballast water and sediments. The Convention will then contribute to the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 on invasive alien species.

Further information is available at the official website of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) <http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/22-BWM-.aspx>.

The Conference of the Parties had urged Parties and other Governments to ratify and implement the BWM Convention in decision VIII/27. I take this opportunity to congratulate all Parties that have ratified the BWM Convention to date and further urge Parties and other Governments to implement the global guidelines developed by the IMO. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will celebrate this landmark event at the margins of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in Cancun, Mexico.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary

To: CBD National Focal Points



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Biological Diversity

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