

Ref. A1/U.3.03

**PROTOCOL OF 1978 RELATING TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS, 1973**

Accession by Tonga

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the Protocol of 1978 relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, and to state that accession by the Kingdom of Tonga was effected by deposit of an instrument on 1 February 1996.

The Convention, as modified by the Protocol, will enter into force for Tonga on 1 May 1996, in accordance with the provisions of article V(2) of the Protocol.

There are, at present, ninety-six Contracting States to the Protocol.
