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**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING,  
CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR FISHING VESSEL  
PERSONNEL, 1995**

**Accession by Syria**

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel, 1995, and to state that, in accordance with article 11, accession by the Syrian Arab Republic was effected by the deposit of an instrument on 12 July 2005.

Article 12 provides that the Convention shall enter into force 12 months after the date on which not less than 15 States have either signed it without reservation as to ratification, acceptance, or approval, or have deposited the requisite instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

The instrument of accession of the Syrian Arab Republic contained the following declaration, in the English language:

“Under no circumstances shall the accession of the Syrian Arab Republic to this Convention, as amended, imply recognition of Israel or occasion its entry with the latter into any of the transactions regulated by the provisions of the same, as amended.”

There are at present five Contracting States to the Convention.