

Law on the Approval of the Ratification of The Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships Has Been Published

In the Official Gazette dated 31/3/2017, Law No. 6931 on the Approval of the Ratification of The Hong Kong International Convention on the Safe and Environmentally Responsible Recycling of Ships¹ has been published.

The Convention adopted in Hong Kong on 15/5/2009 has not entered into force in international law yet. By today, five States have become State Parties to the Convention which correspond to approximately 19.99% of the world maritime fleet.²

In accordance with the Art. 17 of the Convention, it shall enter into force 24 months after the following conditions have been met:

- Ratification by 15 States,
- Representation by 40% of world merchant shipping by gross tonnage, and
- A maximum annual ship recycling volume not less than 3% of the combined tonnage of the ratifying States.³

This process will start for Turkey after the decision of Council of Ministers, which is authorized to conduct Law No. 6931. The Turkish translation of the Convention will be published in the annex to the Decision of the Council of Ministers. The translation of the 2009 Convention is annexed to the draft of Law No. 6931, see for translation:

<https://www.tbmm.gov.tr/sirasayi/donem26/yil01/ss197.pdf>.

¹ 2009 Gemilerin Emniyetli ve Çevreye Duyarlı Geri Dönüşümü Hakkında Hong Kong Uluslararası Sözleşmesinin Çekince ile Onaylanması Hakkında Bakanlar Kurulu Kararı (Karar No: 2017/10363).

² State Parties to the Convention are Belgium, Congo, France, Norway and Denmark. See IMO, Status of multilateral Conventions and instruments in respect of which the International Maritime Organization or its Secretary-General performs depositary or other functions, p. 509. For the document see <http://www.imo.org/en/About/Conventions/StatusOfConventions/Documents/Status%20-%202017.pdf>

³ As of today, the total maximum annual recycling volume of the States Parties to the Convention is 55,792 GT in the previous 10 years. This amount corresponds to 0.00002% of the total maritime fleet of these States, see IMO, Status of multilateral Conventions and instruments in respect of which the International Maritime Organization or its Secretary-General performs depositary or other functions, page 509.