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**SN/Circ.194
15 July 1997**

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**RULES AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON NAVIGATION THROUGH THE
STRAIT OF ISTANBUL, STRAIT OF ÇANAKKALE AND THE SEA OF MARMARA**

Communication by the Government of Turkey

The attached communication received from His Excellency the Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey is circulated pursuant to the request of His Excellency the Ambassador.

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TURKISH EMBASSY

3070/6C-597-37

43, Belgrave Square
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London, 9th July 1997

Dear Secretary General,

With reference to NAV43/INF.5 regarding the Strait of Istanbul, Strait of Canakkale and the Sea of Marmara; NAV43/INF6 on facts and figures with respect to implementation of Turkish Maritime Regulations in the Turkish Straits and SN/Circ193, I would like to bring to your attention the following:

'The Republic of Cyprus' which was founded in accordance with the international treaties on the basis of partnership between the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot peoples of the Island, ceased to exist as such after its Constitution was unilaterally and unlawfully abrogated in 1963 by the Greek Cypriot side through the use of force, despite the protestations and resistance of the Turkish Cypriot side. The Greek Cypriot Administration has since that time represented exclusively the Greek Cypriots and their interests. As a guarantor power under the 1960 Treaty of Guarantee, Turkey does not recognise this administration or its claims for legitimacy.

There is no single authority which, in fact or in law jointly represents or is competent to represent the two Communities, and consequently Cyprus as a whole. The legitimacy of the 1960 Republic lay in the joint presence and effective participation of both sides on an equal footing in all the organs of Cyprus as a whole. This is one of the main issues which has to be settled by the negotiating process which is being pursued between the Turkish Cypriot and the Greek Cypriot leaders on the basis of equality in the framework of the mission of good offices of the UN Secretary-General.

In the light of the above, Turkey considers the representation of Cyprus by the Greek Cypriot Administration at the IMO neither legal nor legitimate. Therefore the commitments assumed by the Republic of Turkey within the

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Secretary General
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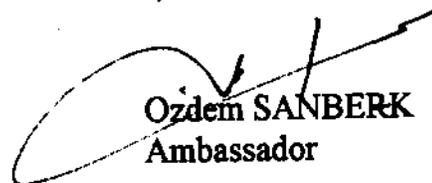
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framework of IMO have no validity or applicability as regards and in relations to Cyprus and they do not create obligations for Turkey in that respect.

I would appreciate it if this letter is circulated to all IMO member States.

Yours sincerely,


Ozdem SANBERK
Ambassador

Encl. 1
