



MAC Protocol
Committee of Governmental Experts
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COMMENTS

(Submitted by the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone)

1. The Republic of Sierra Leone applauds the work of the UNIDROIT Secretariat, the Governing Council and members of the Study Group for the extensive work done on the draft Protocol to the Convention on International Interests on Mobile Equipment on Matters Specific to Agricultural, Construction and Mining Equipment.
2. We recall that the Preamble to the Convention which is "**Mindful of the need to ensure that interests in such equipment are recognized and protected universally**" and "**Desiring to provide broad and mutual economic benefits for all interested parties.**"
3. We note that the draft Protocol is envisaged as the driving document necessary to facilitate credit for the purchase and lease of agricultural, mining and construction equipment which will enhance sustainable economic development and create access, reduce the cost of production for both small and big businesses.
4. The work of the Study Group has astutely controlled the scope of the Protocol by following article 51 of the Convention: the use of the Harmonized System (HS) codes has made identification and applicability easier. We, however, have a few comments in relation to the draft that have been set out as follows:
 - 1.1 The Convention in Article 6 envisages that both the Convention and the Protocol should be read together except where they conflict, then the former take precedence. In light of this, we note that the word "**chargor**" (Article 2 (a) of the Convention) and "**creditor**" and "**debtor**" (Article IX of the draft Protocol) have been used interchangeably. We request therefore, that the words "**creditor**" and "**debtor**" be maintained for consistency in terms.
 - 1.2 Article XXVII of the draft Protocol is well drafted but seems irrelevant due to the concise terminology of Article 6 of the Convention.
5. The Republic of Sierra Leone finds the draft Protocol relevant to its policies for development and once again congratulates the Working Group for their effort. We look forward to our interaction with the Committee of Governmental Experts. We are committed to the discussions that will conclude with a final MAC Protocol that will be representative of Contracting States interests.