

**TEXT OF THE [PRELIMINARY] DRAFT PROTOCOL TO THE [PRELIMINARY]
DRAFT [UNIDROIT] CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS IN
MOBILE EQUIPMENT ON MATTERS SPECIFIC TO AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT
*as reviewed by the Drafting Committee in the light of the
Joint Session's second reading thereof* * ¹**

[PRELIMINARY] DRAFT PROTOCOL TO THE [PRELIMINARY] DRAFT [UNIDROIT]
CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS IN MOBILE EQUIPMENT ON
MATTERS SPECIFIC TO AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT

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* This document reproduces Attachment F to the Report on the second Joint Session, Appendix II.

¹ *Note by the Secretariats:*

Amendments made to the preliminary draft Protocol as reproduced in Unidroit CGE/Int.Int./Report; ICAO Ref. LSC/ME-Report, Attachment D, Appendix II may be identified, in the case of deletions, by the striking through of the provisions in question and, in the case of additions, by the use of underlining.

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PREAMBLE

THE CONTRACTING STATES TO THIS PROTOCOL,

~~MINDFUL of the demand for, and utility of aircraft equipment and the need to finance the acquisition and use thereof as efficiently as possible,~~

~~RECOGNISING the advantages of asset-based financing and leasing for this purpose and desiring to facilitate these transactions by establishing clear rules to govern them,~~

~~BELIEVING that such rules must (i) reflect the principles underlying asset-based financing and leasing of aircraft objects and (ii) provide transaction parties with autonomy to allocate risks and benefits to the extent consistent with the policy decisions made by Contracting States in this Protocol,~~

~~CONSCIOUS of the need for an international registration system as an essential feature of the legal framework applicable to international interests in aircraft equipment,~~

~~CONSIDERING it necessary to implement the UNIDROIT Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment so as to meet the requirements of aircraft finance and the purposes described above as it relates to aircraft equipment, in the light of the purposes set out in the preamble to the Convention,~~

~~MINDFUL of the need to adapt the Convention to meet the particular requirements of aircraft finance and to extend the sphere of application of the Convention to include contracts of sale of aircraft equipment,~~

HAVE AGREED upon the following provisions relating to aircraft equipment:

CHAPTER I

SPHERE OF APPLICATION AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article I

Defined terms

1. – Terms used in this Protocol and defined in Article 1 of the Convention are employed herein with the meanings there stated.

2. – In this Protocol the following terms are employed with the meanings set out below:

(a) «aircraft» means airframes with aircraft engines installed thereon or helicopters;
[(a)]

(b) «aircraft engines» means aircraft engines [(other than those used in military, customs or police services)] powered by jet propulsion or turbine or piston technology and:

~~(a)~~ (i) in the case of jet propulsion aircraft engines, have at least 1750 lbs of thrust or its equivalent; and

~~(b)~~(ii) in the case of turbine-powered or piston-powered aircraft engines, have at least 550 rated take-off shaft horsepower or its equivalent, together with all modules and other installed, incorporated or attached accessories, parts and equipment and all data, manuals and records relating thereto; [(o)]

(c) «aircraft objects» means airframes, aircraft engines and helicopters; [(c)]

(d) «airframes» means airframes [(other than those used in military, customs and police services)] that, when appropriate aircraft engines are installed thereon, are type certified by the competent aviation authority to transport:

~~(a)~~(i) at least eight (8) persons including crew; or

~~(b)~~(ii) goods in excess of 2750 kilograms,

together with all installed, incorporated or attached accessories, parts and equipment (other than aircraft engines), ² and all data, manuals and records relating thereto; [(f)]

(e) «authorised party» means the party referred to in Article XIII(2); [(q)]

(f) «Chicago Convention» means the Convention on International Civil Aviation, opened for signature at Chicago on 7 December 1944, as amended; [(i)]

(g) «common mark registering authority» means the authority maintaining the non-national register in which an aircraft of an international operating agency is registered in accordance with Article 77 of the Chicago Convention; [(c)]

(h) «de-register the aircraft» means delete or remove the registration of an aircraft from a national aircraft register; [(r)]

(i) «Geneva Convention» means the Convention on the International Recognition of Rights in Aircraft, opened for signature at Geneva on 19 June 1948; [(j)]

(j) «guarantee contract» means a contract entered into by a person as guarantor; [(h)]

(k) «guarantor» means a person who, for the purpose of assuring performance of any obligations in favour of an obligee secured by a security agreement or under an agreement, gives or issues a suretyship or demand guarantee or a standby letter of credit or any other form of credit insurance; [(m)]

(l) «helicopters» means heavier-than-air machines [(other than those used in military, customs or police services)] supported in flight chiefly by the reactions of the air on one or more power-driven rotors on substantially vertical axes and which are type certified by the competent aviation authority to transport:

~~(a)~~(i) at least five (5) persons including crew; or

~~(b)~~(ii) goods in excess of 450 kilograms,

together with all installed, incorporated or attached accessories, parts and equipment (including rotors), and all data, manuals and records relating thereto; [(n)]

(m) «insolvency date» means the date referred to in Article XI(1); [(k)]

(n) [«International Registry Authority» means the permanent international body

² Consider the position of propellers.

designated as the International Registry Authority under this Protocol;] [(b)]³

(o) [«International Regulator» means [the permanent international body designated as the International Regulator under this Protocol] [the entity designated as the International Regulator in Article XVI(1)];] [(p)]⁴

(p) «national aircraft register» means ~~the national register in which an aircraft is registered pursuant to any register for the purposes of~~ the Chicago Convention; [(s)]

(q) «national registry authority» means the national authority, or the common mark registering authority in a Contracting State which is the State of registry responsible for the registration and de-registration of an aircraft in accordance with the Chicago Convention; [(d)]

(r) «primary insolvency jurisdiction» means the insolvency jurisdiction of the State in which the centre of the obligor's main interests is situated; [(t)]

~~«prospective sale» means a sale that is intended to take effect on the conclusion of a contract of sale in the future;~~

(s) [«Registrar» means [the entity designated as the Registrar under this Protocol] [the entity initially designated or subsequently appointed or re-appointed as the Registrar, as the case may be, as specified in Article XVI];] [(g)] and

(t) «State of registry» means in respect of an aircraft the State, or a State member of a common mark registering authority, on whose national aircraft register an aircraft is entered under the Chicago Convention. [(l)]

Article II

Implementation of Convention as regards aircraft objects

1. – The Convention shall apply in relation to aircraft objects as implemented by the terms of this Protocol.

2. – The Convention and this Protocol shall be read and interpreted together as one single instrument and shall be known as the UNIDROIT Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment as applied to aircraft objects.

Article III⁵

Sphere of application

1. – The connection with a Contracting State under Article 3(b) of the Convention is satisfied with respect to this Protocol if an [aircraft object] is registered in a national aircraft register of a Contracting State [or if the agreement provides that the aircraft object shall be registered, and the aircraft object becomes so registered, in a Contracting State].

~~[2. – Notwithstanding the provisions of Article V of the Convention, this Protocol shall~~

³ This definition will need to be reconsidered in the light of the Drafting Committee's review of the registration provisions pursuant to the deliberations of Plenary regarding the Report by the Registration Working Group.

⁴ This definition will need to be reconsidered in the light of the Drafting Committee's review of the registration provisions pursuant to the deliberations of Plenary regarding the Report by the Registration Working Group.

⁵ Add a paragraph inserting as a connecting factor the situation of the transferor under a contract of sale.

apply to ~~[a purely domestic transaction].]~~⁶

~~[3.-2.]~~ –In their relations with each other, the parties may ~~not~~, by agreement in writing, derogate from or vary the effect of any of the provisions of this Protocol, ~~except, by agreement in writing, as stated in~~ Articles IX(1), X or XI(1) - (6).

Article IV
Application of Convention to sales

The following provisions of the Convention apply *mutatis mutandis* in relation to a sale and a prospective sale as they apply in relation to an international interest and a prospective international interest:

Article 15(1) other than sub-paragraph (c);

Articles 17 - 19;

Article 22;

Articles 24 and 26;

Chapter VII; and

Article 38.

Article V
Formalities and effects of contract of sale

1. – For the purposes of this Protocol, a contract of sale is one which:

- (a) is in writing;
- (b) relates to an aircraft object of which the transferor has power to dispose; and
- (c) identifies the aircraft object.

2. – A contract of sale transfers the interest of the transferor in the aircraft object to the transferee according to its terms.

3. – A sale may be registered by either party to the contract of sale in the International Registry by or with the consent in writing of the other party.

⁶ This provision will need to be reinstated in the event that Article V of the preliminary draft Convention is not found to be acceptable.

Article VI
Representative capacities

A party to an agreement or a contract of sale may enter into an agreement, or register a related interest in an aircraft object in an agency, trust or other representative capacity. In such case, that party is entitled to assert rights and interests under the Convention to the exclusion of the party or parties represented.

Article VII
Description of aircraft objects

A description of an aircraft object that contains its manufacturer's serial number, the name of the manufacturer and its model designation is necessary and sufficient to identify the object for the purposes of Article 7(c) of the Convention and Article V(1)(c) of this Protocol.

Article VIII
Choice of law

1. – The parties to an agreement or a contract of sale or a related guarantee contract or subordination agreement may agree on the law which is to govern their rights and obligations under the Convention, wholly or in part.

2. – Unless otherwise agreed, the reference in the preceding paragraph to the law chosen by the parties is to the rules of law in force in the designated State or ~~political subdivision~~ territorial unit of a State other than its rules of private international law.

CHAPTER II

DEFAULT REMEDIES, PRIORITIES AND ASSIGNMENTS

Article IX
Modification of default remedies provisions

1. – In addition to the remedies specified in the provisions of Articles 8(1), 10 and 14(1) of the Convention, the obligee may, to the extent that the obligor has at any time so agreed and in the circumstances specified in such provisions:

- (a) de-register the aircraft; and
- (b) export and physically transfer the aircraft object from the territory in which it is situated.

2. – The obligee may not exercise the remedies specified in the preceding paragraph without the prior consent in writing of the holder of any registered interest ranking in priority to that of the obligee. ⁷

3. – (a) Article 8(2) of the Convention shall not apply to aircraft objects.

(b) A new Article 13^{bis} shall be inserted after Article 13 of the Convention, to read as follows:

«1. – Any remedy given by this Convention shall be exercised in a commercially reasonable manner.

2. – An agreement between an obligor and an obligee as to what is commercially reasonable shall, subject to paragraph 3, be conclusive.

3. – An obligee may not take possession or control of an aircraft object otherwise than by lawful means. ⁸ For these purposes, the removal of the aircraft object from service shall not in itself be deemed unlawful.»

4. – A chargee giving ten or more ~~working~~ calendar days' prior written notice of a proposed sale or lease to interested persons is deemed to satisfy the requirement of providing «reasonable prior notice» specified in Article 8(3) of the Convention. The foregoing shall not prevent a chargee and a chargor or a guarantor from agreeing to a longer prior notice period.

Article X

Definition of speedy judicial relief

[1. —For the purposes of Article 14(1) of the Convention, «speedy» in the context of obtaining judicial relief means a period not exceeding [...] calendar days from the date on which the instrument initiating the proceedings is lodged with the court or its administrative office.]

[2.– The obligor and obligee may at any time agree that Article 14(2) of the Convention shall not apply.]

[3.]– The remedies specified in Article IX(1) shall be made available by the national registry authority and other administrative authorities, as applicable, in a Contracting State no later than [...] ~~working~~ calendar days after the judicial relief specified in ~~the preceding~~ paragraph 1 is authorised or, in the case of judicial relief authorised by a foreign court, approved by courts of that Contracting State.

[4.] – Judicial relief under Article 14(1) of the Convention may be granted in a Contracting State notwithstanding the commencement of insolvency proceedings ⁹ in another [Contracting]

⁷ Further consideration is to be given to the situation of holders of other interests that are protected under Article IX of the Geneva Convention.

⁸ It will be necessary to delete the reference to «by lawful means» in line with the decision to delete the words «and by lawful means» in Article 8 (2) of the preliminary draft Convention.

⁹ The phrase «insolvency proceedings» should be defined and brought into line with the terminology of the Convention.

State unless its application would contravene an international instrument binding on that Contracting State.

*Article XI*¹¹
Remedies on insolvency

[Alternative A]

1. – For the purposes of this Article, «insolvency date» means the earliest date on which one of the events specified in paragraph 2 shall have occurred.

2. – This Article applies where:

(a) any insolvency proceedings¹² against the obligor have been commenced by the obligor or another person in a Contracting State which is the primary insolvency jurisdiction of the obligor; or

(b) the obligor is located in a Contracting State and has declared its intention to suspend, or has actually suspended payment to creditors generally.

3. – Within a period not exceeding [. . .]¹³ days from the insolvency date the obligor shall:

(a) cure all defaults and agree to perform all future obligations under the agreement and related transaction documents; or

(b) give possession of the aircraft object to the obligee [in accordance with, and in the condition specified in the agreement and related transaction documents].

4. – Where possession has been given to the obligee pursuant to the preceding paragraph, the remedies specified in Article IX(1) shall be made available by the national registry authority and other administrative authorities, as applicable, no later than [. . .]¹⁴ working calendar days after the date on which the aircraft object is returned.

5. – No exercise of remedies permitted by the Convention may be prevented or delayed after the period specified in paragraph 3.

6. – No obligations of the obligor under the agreement and related transactions may be modified [in the insolvency proceedings] without the consent of the obligee.

¹⁰ *Note by the Secretariats:*

The provisions of this Chapter are presented in square brackets in that the Drafting Committee did not have time to give effect to the decisions taken by the Plenary during its consideration of the Report by the Insolvency Working Group (ICAO Ref. LSC/ME/2-WP/19; UNIDROIT CGE/Int.Int./2-WP/19).

¹¹ *Idem*

¹² A Contracting State may find it appropriate or necessary to adjust its relevant domestic laws or regulations in order to give full effect to this Article and Article XII.

¹³ See Article XXX.

¹⁴ See Article XXX.

7. – No rights or interests, except for preferred non-consensual rights or interests listed in an instrument deposited under Article 38 of the Convention, shall have priority in the insolvency over registered interests.

*[Alternative B]*¹⁵

Article XII¹⁶

Insolvency assistance

The courts of a Contracting State in which an aircraft object is situated shall, in accordance with the law of the Contracting State, co-operate to the maximum extent possible with foreign courts or other foreign authorities administering the insolvency proceedings referred to in Article XI in carrying out the provisions of that Article.

Article XIII

De-registration and export authorisation

1. – Where the obligor has issued an irrevocable de-registration and export request authorisation substantially in the form annexed to this Protocol and has submitted such authorisation for recordation to the national registry authority, that authorisation shall be so recorded.

2. – The person in whose favour the authorisation has been issued (the «authorised party») or its certified designee shall be the sole person entitled to exercise the remedies specified in Article IX(1) and may do so only in accordance with the authorisation and any applicable airworthiness or safety laws or regulations. Such authorisation may not be revoked by the obligor without the consent in writing of the authorised party. The national registry authority shall remove an authorisation from the registry at the request of the authorised party.

3. – The national registry authority and other administrative authorities in Contracting States shall expeditiously co-operate with and assist the authorised party in the exercise of the remedies specified in Article IX.

Article XIV

Modification of priority provisions

Article 27 of the Convention applies with the omission of paragraph 4 3.

¹⁵ It was suggested that an alternative, more flexible formulation of the remedies on insolvency should be prepared. A proposed text does not yet exist, however.

¹⁶ *Note by the Secretariats:*

The provisions of this Chapter are presented in square brackets in that the Drafting Committee did not have time to give effect to the decisions taken by the Plenary during its consideration of the Report by the Insolvency Working Group (ICAO Ref. LSC/ME/2-WP/19; UNIDROIT CGE/Int.Int./2-WP/19).

Article XV
Modification of assignment provisions

1. – Article 29(2) of the Convention applies with the following being added immediately after sub-paragraph (c):

«(d) is consented to in writing by the obligor, whether or not the consent is given in advance of the assignment or specifically identifies the assignee.»

[2. – Article 31(1) of the Convention applies with the omission of sub-paragraph (c).]

[~~3. 2~~ – Article 34 of the Convention applies with the omission of the words ~~following the phrase «not held with an international interest»~~. beginning with the words «to the extent that».] ^{17 18}

[CHAPTER III ¹⁹

REGISTRY PROVISIONS RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS
IN AIRCRAFT OBJECTS

Article XVI
Regulation and operation of Registry

Alternative A

[1. – [The International Registry shall be regulated and operated by the International Registry Authority.] [The International Registry shall be regulated by the International Regulator ²⁰ and operated by the Registrar.]] ²¹

¹⁷ Article 34 of the preliminary draft Convention, as may be modified by this preliminary draft Protocol, will have important implications for the competing rights of a receivables financier and an asset-based financier. Consideration should be given to the appropriate rule in the context of aviation financing as well as to its effects on general receivables financing.

¹⁸ This provision was seen as raising an important policy question to be decided by Plenary, namely the desirability of extending the scope of this rule beyond equipment-specific financing.

¹⁹ *Note by the Secretariats:*

The provisions of this Chapter are presented in square brackets in that the Drafting Committee did not have time to give effect to the decisions taken by the Plenary during its consideration of the Report by the Registration Working Group (ICAO Ref. LSC/ME/2-WP/17; UNIDROIT CGE/Int.Int./2-WP/17).

²⁰ Further consideration needs to be given as to whether the appropriate term is *International* Regulator or *Intergovernmental* Regulator.

²¹ The two bracketed provisions in this Alternative A are mutually exclusive, so that if the decision is to have an International Registry Authority references in other Articles to the International Regulator and the Registrar will be deleted, whilst if the latter are adopted references to the International Registry Authority will be deleted.

Alternative B

[1. – The International Registry shall be regulated by the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization or such other permanent body designated by it to be the International Regulator.

2. – The initial Registrar hereby designated to operate the International Registry shall be a newly created, independent special purpose affiliate of the International Air Transport Association.

3. – The initial Registrar shall be organised in consultation with the International Regulator. Its constitutive documents shall contain provisions that:

- (a) restrict it to acting as Registrar and performing ancillary functions; and
- (b) ensure that it has no greater duties (fiduciary or otherwise) to members of the International Air Transport Association than to any person or entity in the performance of its functions as Registrar.

4. – The initial Registrar shall operate the International Registry for a period of five years from the date of entry into force of this Protocol. Thereafter, the Registrar shall be appointed or re-appointed at regular five-year intervals by the [Contracting States] [International Regulator].]

[2./5. – Article 16(1) and (3) of the Convention apply as modified by the preceding paragraphs of this Article.]

Article XVII

Basic regulatory responsibilities

1. – The [International Registry Authority] [International Regulator] shall act in a non-adjudicative capacity. This shall not prevent the [International Registry Authority] [International Regulator] from undertaking the functions specified in Article 16(6) and (7) of the Convention.

2. – The [International Registry Authority] [International Regulator] shall [be responsible to the Contracting States and shall report thereto on its regulatory [and oversight] functions. Such reports shall be made on a yearly basis or more frequently as the [International Registry Authority] [International Regulator] deems appropriate.]

[3. – The initial regulations shall be promulgated by the [International Registry Authority] [International Regulator] on entry into force of this Protocol.]

Article XVIII

Registration facilities

1. – At the time of ratification, acceptance, approval of, or accession to this Protocol, a Contracting State may, subject to paragraph 2:

(a) designate its operators of registration facilities as specified in Article 16(2) of the Convention; and

(b) declare the extent to which any such designation shall preclude alternative access to the International Registry.

2. – A Contracting State may only designate registration facilities as points of access to the International Registry in relation to:

(a) helicopters or airframes pertaining to aircraft for which it is the State of registry; and

(b) registrable non-consensual rights or interests created under its domestic law.

Article XIX

Additional modifications to Registry provisions

1. – For the purposes of Article 19(6) of the Convention, the search criterion for an aircraft object shall be its manufacturer's serial number, supplemented as necessary to ensure uniqueness. Such supplementary information shall be specified in the regulations.

2. – For the purposes of Article 25(2) of the Convention and in the circumstances there described, the holder of a registered prospective international interest or a registered prospective assignment of an international interest shall take such steps as are within its power to effect a removal thereof no later than five ~~working~~ calendar days after the receipt of the demand described in such paragraph.

3. – The fees referred to in Article 16(4) of the Convention shall be determined so as to recover the reasonable costs of operating the International Registry and the registration facilities and, in the case of the initial fees, of designing and implementing the international registration system.

4. – The centralised functions of the International Registry shall be operated and administered by the [International Registry Authority] [Registrar] on a twenty-four hour basis. The various registration facilities shall be operated and administered during working hours in their respective territories.

5. – The regulations shall prescribe the manner in which the following provisions of the Convention shall apply:

Article 16(6) and (7);

Article 17;

Article 18;

Article 21;

Article 22(1) and (2);

Article 23; and

Article 24.]

[CHAPTER IV ²²

JURISDICTION

Article XX

Modification of jurisdiction provisions

For the purposes of Articles 40 and 41 of the Convention, a court of a Contracting State also has jurisdiction where that State is the State of registry.

Article XXI

Waivers of sovereign immunity

1. – Subject to paragraph 2, a waiver of sovereign immunity from jurisdiction of the courts specified in Article 41 of the Convention or relating to enforcement of rights and interests relating to an aircraft object under the Convention shall be binding and, if the other conditions to such jurisdiction or enforcement have been satisfied, shall be effective to confer jurisdiction and permit enforcement, as the case may be.

2. – A waiver under the preceding paragraph must be in a[n authenticated] writing that contains a description of the aircraft.]

CHAPTER V ²³

RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER CONVENTIONS

Article XXII

Relationship with 1948 Convention on the International Recognition of Rights in Aircraft

1. – Where a Contracting State is a party to the Geneva Convention:

(a) the reference to the «law» of such Contracting State for the purposes of Article I (1)(d)(i) of the Geneva Convention should be to such law after giving effect to the Convention;

(b) for the purposes of the Geneva Convention, the term «aircraft» as defined in Article XVI of that Convention shall be deleted and replaced by the terms «airframes,» «aircraft engines» and «helicopters» as defined in this Protocol; and

²² *Note by the Secretariats:*

The provisions of this Chapter were not considered by the Drafting Committee pending completion of their review by the Jurisdiction Working Group.

²³ With the exception of Article XXX, the meeting of governmental experts did not discuss Chapters V and VI, leaving consideration of those Chapters to a time nearer to a diplomatic Conference.

(c) registrations in the International Registry shall be deemed to be regular recordations «in a public record of the Contracting State» for the purposes of Article I (1)(ii) of the Geneva Convention.

2. – Subject to paragraph 3, the Convention shall, for the Contracting States referred to in the preceding paragraph, supersede the Geneva Convention to the extent, after giving effect to the preceding paragraph, of inconsistency between the two Conventions.

3. – The provisions of the preceding paragraph shall not apply to Articles VII and VIII of the Geneva Convention where an obligee elects to exercise remedies against an obligor in accordance with those Articles [and provides the court with written evidence of that election].

Article XXIII

Relationship with 1933 Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to the Precautionary Arrest of Aircraft

The Convention shall, for Contracting States that do not make a declaration under Article Y(2)²⁴ of the Convention, supersede the 1933 Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to the Precautionary Arrest of Aircraft.

Article XXIV

Relationship with 1988 UNIDROIT Convention on International Financial Leasing

The Convention shall supersede the 1988 UNIDROIT Convention on International Financial Leasing as it relates to aircraft objects.

CHAPTER VI

[OTHER] FINAL PROVISIONS²⁵

²⁴ If Alternative B of Article Y(2) is adopted, this will need to be amended accordingly.

²⁵ It is envisaged that, in line with practice, draft Final Provisions will be prepared for the Diplomatic Conference at such time as governmental experts have completed their preparation of the draft Protocol. The proposals for draft Final Provisions set out in the Addendum to this preliminary draft Protocol below are in no way intended to prejudge that process but simply to indicate the suggestions of the Aircraft Protocol Group on this matter. Particular attention is drawn to Articles XXXI(3) and XXXIII(3) (limiting the effect of any future declaration or reservation and denunciation respectively as regards established rights) and Article XXXIV (establishing a Review Board and contemplating review and revision of this Protocol).

ADDENDUM

CHAPTER VI

[OTHER] FINAL PROVISIONS

Article XXV

Adoption of Protocol

1. – This Protocol is open for signature at the concluding meeting of the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of the Draft Protocol to the UNIDROIT Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Aircraft Equipment and will remain open for signature by all Contracting States at [...] until [...].

2. – This Protocol is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval of Contracting States which have signed it.

3. – This Protocol is open for accession by all States which are not signatory Contracting States as from the date it is open for signature.

4. – Ratification, acceptance, approval or accession is effected by the deposit of a formal instrument to that effect with the depositary.²⁶

Article XXVI

Entry into force

1. – This Protocol enters into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of [three] months after the date of deposit of the [third] instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

2. – For each Contracting State that ratifies, accepts, approves or accedes to this Protocol after the deposit of the [third] instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, this Protocol enters into force in respect of that Contracting State on the first day of the month following the expiration of [three] months after the date of the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

²⁶ It is recommended that a resolution be adopted at, and contained in the Final Acts and Proceedings of, the Diplomatic Conference, contemplating the use by Contracting States of a model ratification instrument that would standardise, *inter alia*, the format for the making and/or withdrawal of declarations and reservations.

Article XXVII
Territorial units

1. – If a Contracting State has two or more territorial units in which different systems of law are applicable in relation to the matters dealt with in this Protocol, it may, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, declare that this Protocol is to extend to all its territorial units or only to one or more of them and may substitute its declaration by another declaration at any time.

2. – These declarations are to be notified to the depositary and are to state expressly the territorial units to which this Protocol extends.

3. – If a Contracting State makes no declaration under paragraph 1, this Protocol is to extend to all territorial units of that Contracting State.

Article XXVIII
Temporal application

This Protocol applies in a Contracting State to rights and interests in aircraft objects created or arising on or after the date on which this Protocol enters into force in that Contracting State.

Article XXIX
Declarations and reservations

No declarations or reservations are permitted except those expressly authorised in this Protocol.

Article XXX
Declarations disapplying certain provisions

A Contracting State, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval of, or accession to this Protocol[[],]:

(a) may declare that it will not apply any one or more of the provisions of Articles VIII and X to XIII of this Protocol[;];

(b) to the extent that it has not made a declaration under sub-paragraph (a), must declare that it will apply time-periods as specified in its declaration for the purposes of Articles X and XII; and

(c) may declare that it will impose other conditions on the application of Articles VIII [, IX(1)] and X to XII as specified in its declaration[.].

Article XXXI
Subsequent declarations

1. – A Contracting State may make a subsequent declaration at any time after the date on which it enters into force for that Contracting State, by the deposit of an instrument to that effect with the depositary.

2. – Any such subsequent declaration shall take effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of [twelve] months after the date of deposit of the instrument in which such declaration is made with the depositary. Where a longer period for that declaration to take effect is specified in the instrument in which such declaration is made, it shall take effect upon the expiration of such longer period after its deposit with the depositary.

3. – Notwithstanding the previous paragraphs, this Protocol shall continue to apply, as if no such subsequent declaration had been made, in respect of all rights and interests arising prior to the effective date of that subsequent declaration.

Article XXXII
Withdrawal of declarations and reservations

Any Contracting State which makes a declaration under, or a reservation to this Protocol may withdraw it at any time by a formal notification in writing addressed to the depositary. Such withdrawal is to take effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of [three] months after the date of the receipt of the notification by the depositary.

Article XXXIII
Denunciations

1. – This Protocol may be denounced by any Contracting State at any time after the date on which it enters into force for that Contracting State, by the deposit of an instrument to that effect with the depositary.

2. – Any such denunciation shall take effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of [twelve] months after the date of deposit of the instrument of denunciation with the depositary. Where a longer period for that denunciation to take effect is specified in the instrument of denunciation, it shall take effect upon the expiration of such longer period after its deposit with the depositary.

3. – Notwithstanding the previous paragraphs, this Protocol shall continue to apply, as if no such denunciation had been made, in respect of all rights and interests arising prior to the effective date of that denunciation.

Article XXXIV
Establishment and responsibilities of Review Board

1. – A five-member Review Board shall promptly be appointed to prepare yearly reports for the Contracting States addressing the matters specified in sub-paragraphs (a)-(d) of paragraph 2. [The composition, organisation and administration of the Review Board shall be determined, in consultation with other aviation interests, jointly by the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law and the International Civil Aviation Organization.]

2. – At the request of not less than twenty-five per cent of the Contracting States, conferences of the Contracting States shall be convened from time to time to consider:

(a) the practical operation of this Protocol and its effectiveness in facilitating the asset-based financing and leasing of aircraft objects;

(b) the judicial interpretation given to the terms of the Convention, this Protocol and the regulations;

(c) the functioning of the international registration system and the performance of the [International Registry Authority] [Registrar and its oversight by the Intergovernmental Regulator]; and

(d) whether any modifications to this Protocol or the arrangements relating to the International Registry are desirable.

Article XXXV
Depositary arrangements

1. – This Protocol shall be deposited with the [...].

2. – The [...] shall:

(a) inform all Contracting States which have signed or acceded to this Protocol and [...] of:

(i) each new signature or deposit of an instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, together with the date thereof;

(ii) each declaration made in accordance with this Protocol;

(iii) the withdrawal of any declaration;

(iv) the date of entry into force of this Protocol; and

(v) the deposit of an instrument of denunciation of this Protocol together with the date of its deposit and the date on which it takes effect;

(b) transmit certified true copies of this Protocol to all signatory Contracting States, to all Contracting States acceding to the Protocol and to [...];

(c) provide the [International Registry Authority] [Registrar] with the contents of each instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession so that the information contained therein may be made publicly accessible; and

(d) perform such other functions customary for depositaries.

FORM OF IRREVOCABLE DE-REGISTRATION
AND EXPORT REQUEST AUTHORISATION

[Insert Date]

To: [Insert Name of National Registry Authority]

Re: Irrevocable De-Registration and Export Request Authorisation

The undersigned is the registered [operator] [owner] of the [insert the airframe/helicopter manufacturer name and model number] bearing manufacturer's serial number [insert manufacturer's serial number] and registration [number] [mark] [insert registration number/mark] (together with all installed, incorporated or attached accessories, parts and equipment, the «aircraft»).

This instrument is an irrevocable de-registration and export request authorisation issued by the undersigned in favour of [insert name of obligee] («the **authorised party**») under the authority of Article XIII of the Protocol to the UNIDROIT Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Aircraft Equipment. In accordance with that Article, the undersigned hereby requests:

(i) recognition that the authorised party or the person it certifies as its designee is the sole person entitled to:

(a) obtain de-registration of the aircraft from the [insert name of national aviation registry] maintained by the [insert name of aviation authority] for the purposes of Chapter III of the Chicago Convention of 1944 on International Civil Aviation; and

(b) export and physically transfer the aircraft from [insert name of country]; and

(ii) confirmation that the authorised party or the person it certifies as its designee may take the action specified in clause (i) above on written demand without the consent of the undersigned and that, upon such demand, the authorities in [insert name of country] shall cooperate with the authorised party with a view to the speedy completion of such action.

The rights in favour of the authorised party established by this instrument may not be revoked by the undersigned without the written consent of the authorised party.

Please acknowledge your agreement to this request and its terms by appropriate notation in the space provided below and lodging this instrument in [insert name of national registry authority].

[insert name of operator/owner]

Agreed to and lodged this
[insert date]

By: [insert name of signatory]
Its: [insert title of signatory]

[insert relevant notational details]

* Select the term that reflects the relevant nationality registration criterion.

