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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2015 No. 912**

**CIVIL AVIATION**

**The International Interests in Aircraft Equipment  
(Cape Town Convention) Regulations 2015**

*Made - - - - 23rd March 2015*

*Laid before Parliament 26th March 2015*

*Coming into force in accordance with Regulation 2*

The Secretary of State is designated<sup>(1)</sup> for the purposes of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972<sup>(2)</sup> in relation to property interests in moveable objects.

The Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and its Protocol on matters specific to Aircraft Equipment signed on 16th November 2001 are together to be regarded as an EU Treaty as defined in section 1(2) of the European Communities Act 1972, by virtue of the European Union (Definition of Treaties) (Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and Protocol thereto on matters specific to Aircraft Equipment) Order 2014<sup>(3)</sup>.

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972, makes the following Regulations:

**PART 1**

**INTRODUCTORY**

**Citation**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the International Interests in Aircraft Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Regulations 2015.

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(1) See the European Communities (Designation) (No. 2) Order 2012 ([S.I. 2012/2752](#)) art.2.

(2) [1972 c.68](#). Section 2(2) was amended by section 27 of the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006 ([c. 51](#)) and by section 3 of, and the Schedule to, the European Union (Amendment) Act 2008 ([c. 7](#)). The European Union (Definition of Treaties) (Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and Protocol thereto on matters specific to Aircraft Equipment) Order 2014 ([S.I. 2014/1885](#)) provides for the Cape Town Convention and its Protocol on Aircraft Equipment to be regarded as an EU Treaty as defined in section 1(2) of the European Communities Act 1972, as a result of which the provisions of section 2 of the 1972 Act apply to it for the purposes of implementation in the UK.

(3) [S.I. 2014/1885](#).

## **Commencement**

2. These Regulations come into force on the date specified in Article XXVIII of the Aircraft Protocol(4) for commencement of that Protocol.

## **Extent**

3. These Regulations extend to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

## **The Cape Town Convention and Aircraft Protocol**

4.—(1) In these Regulations “the Cape Town Convention” means the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment signed at Cape Town on 16th November 2001.

(2) In these Regulations “the Aircraft Protocol” means the Protocol to the Cape Town Convention on matters specific to Aircraft Equipment.

(3) In these Regulations “Protocol Regulations” means regulations made or approved by the Supervisory Authority pursuant to the Aircraft Protocol.

(4) The text of the Cape Town Convention is set out in Schedule 1.

(5) The text of the Aircraft Protocol is set out in Schedule 2.

(6) The Cape Town Convention and the Aircraft Protocol may be referred to together as the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment as applied to aircraft objects.

## **Interpretation**

5. In these Regulations—

“agreement” means a security agreement, a title reservation agreement or a leasing agreement;

“aircraft” means aircraft as defined for the purposes of the Chicago Convention which are either airframes with aircraft engines installed thereon or helicopters;

“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) in the case of jet propulsion aircraft engines, have at least 1750lb of thrust or its equivalent, and

(b) 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 to them;

“aircraft objects” means airframes, aircraft engines and helicopters;

“the Aircraft Protocol” has the meaning given by regulation 4(2);

“aircraft register” means a register maintained by a State or a common mark registering authority for the purposes of the Chicago Convention;

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(4) Article XXVIII of the Aircraft Protocol provides that it “enters into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of three months after the date of the deposit of the eighth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, between the States which have deposited such instruments” and, in the case of other States, “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.”. This date will be notified in the London, Edinburgh and Belfast Gazettes. It will also be possible to find out the date on which the Cape Town Convention and Aircraft Protocol enter into force for the United Kingdom by referring to the relevant page on Gov.UK. The link to that page is <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/treaty-series-2013>.

“airframes” means airframes (other than those used in military, customs or police services) that, when appropriate aircraft engines are installed thereon, are type certified by the competent aviation authority to transport—

- (a) at least 8 persons including crew, or
- (b) goods in excess of 2750 kilograms,

together with all installed, incorporated or attached accessories, parts and equipment (other than aircraft engines), and all data, manuals and records relating to them;

“applicable law” means the domestic rules of the law applicable by virtue of the rules of private international law of a State; and where a State comprises several territorial units, each of which has its own rules of law in respect of the matter to be decided, and where there is no indication of the relevant territorial unit—

- (a) the law of that State decides which is the territorial unit whose rules govern, and
- (b) in the absence of any such rule, the law of the territorial unit with which the case is most closely connected applies;

“assignment” means a contract which, whether by way of security or otherwise, confers on the assignee associated rights with or without a transfer of the related international interest;

“associated rights” means all rights to payment or other performance by a debtor under an agreement which are secured by or associated with the aircraft object;

“authorised party” means the party referred to in regulation 22(6);

“the Cape Town Convention” has the meaning given by regulation 4(1);

“Chicago Convention” means the Convention on International Civil Aviation, signed at Chicago on 7th December 1944, as amended, and its Annexes;

“commencement of the insolvency proceedings” means the time at which the insolvency proceedings are deemed to commence under the applicable insolvency law;

“common mark registering authority” means the authority maintaining a register in accordance with Article 77 of the Chicago Convention as implemented by the Resolution adopted on 14th December 1967 by the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization on nationality and registration of aircraft operated by international operating agencies;

“conditional buyer” means a buyer under a title reservation agreement;

“conditional seller” means a seller under a title reservation agreement;

“contract of sale” means a contract for the sale of an aircraft object by a seller to a buyer which is not an agreement (as defined);

“Contracting State” means a State party to the Cape Town Convention and the Aircraft Protocol;

“the court” has the meaning given by regulation 47;

“creditor” means a chargee under a security agreement, a conditional seller under a title reservation agreement or a lessor under a leasing agreement;

“debtor” means a chargor under a security agreement, a conditional buyer under a title reservation agreement or a lessee under a leasing agreement;

“default” has the meaning given by regulation 18;

“de-registration of the aircraft” means deletion or removal of the registration of the aircraft from its aircraft register in accordance with the Chicago Convention;

“guarantor” means a person who, for the purpose of assuring performance of any obligations in favour of a creditor under an agreement, gives or issues a suretyship or demand guarantee or a standby letter of credit or any other form of credit insurance;

“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) at least 5 persons including crew, or
- (b) 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 to them;

“insolvency office holder” means a person authorised to administer insolvency proceedings, including one authorised on an interim basis, and includes a debtor in possession if permitted by the applicable insolvency law;

“insolvency proceedings” means liquidation, bankruptcy, sequestration or other collective judicial or administrative insolvency proceedings, including interim proceedings, in which the assets and affairs of the debtor are subject to control or supervision by a court (or liquidation committee);

“interested persons” means—

- (a) the debtor;
- (b) a guarantor;
- (c) any other person having rights in or over the aircraft object;

“international interest” means an interest held by a creditor to which Article 2 of the Cape Town Convention applies;

“International Registry” means the international registration facilities established for the purposes of the Cape Town Convention and the Aircraft Protocol;

“law of the United Kingdom” means the law of the relevant Part of the United Kingdom;

“leasing agreement” means an agreement by which one person (the lessor) grants a right to possession or control of an aircraft object (with or without an option to purchase) to another person (the lessee) in return for a rental or other payment;

“non-consensual right or interest” means a right or interest conferred under the law of a Contracting State which has made a declaration under Article 39 of the Cape Town Convention to secure the performance of an obligation, including an obligation to a State, State entity or an intergovernmental or private organisation;

“pre-existing right or interest” means a right or interest of any kind in or over an aircraft object created or arising before the effective date of the Cape Town Convention as defined by Article 60(2)(a);

“proceeds” means money or non-money proceeds of an aircraft object arising from the total or partial loss or physical destruction of the aircraft object or its total or partial confiscation, condemnation or requisition;

“prospective assignment” means an assignment that is intended to be made in the future, upon the occurrence of a stated event, whether or not the occurrence of the event is certain;

“prospective international interest” means an interest that is intended to be created or provided for in an aircraft object as an international interest in the future, upon the occurrence of a stated event (which may include the debtor’s acquisition of an interest in the aircraft object), whether or not the occurrence of the event is certain;

“prospective sale” means a sale which is intended to be made in the future, upon the occurrence of a stated event, whether or not the occurrence of the event is certain;

“Protocol Regulations” has the meaning given by regulation 4(3);

“recognised” means recognised in the law of each Part of the United Kingdom;

“registered” means registered in the International Registry pursuant to Chapter V of the Cape Town Convention;

“registered interest” means an international interest including an interest treated as an international interest in accordance with article 40 of the Cape Town Convention, or in cases where a State has made a declaration under Article 50 of the Cape Town Convention, a national interest specified in a notice of a national interest registered pursuant to Chapter V of the Cape Town Convention;

“Registrar” means, in respect of the Aircraft Protocol, the person or body designated by that Protocol or appointed under Article 17(2)(b) of the Cape Town Convention;

“sale” means a transfer of ownership of an aircraft object pursuant to a contract of sale;

“secured obligation” means an obligation secured by a security interest;

“security agreement” means an agreement by which a chargor grants or agrees to grant to a chargee an interest (including an ownership interest) in or over an aircraft object to secure the performance of any existing or future obligation of the chargor or a third person;

“security interest” means an interest created by a security agreement;

“State” includes territory;

“State of registry” means, in respect of an aircraft, the State on the national register of which an aircraft is entered or the State of location of the common mark registering authority maintaining the aircraft register;

“Supervisory Authority” means, in respect of the Aircraft Protocol, the Supervisory Authority referred to in Article 17(1) of the Cape Town Convention;

“title reservation agreement” means an agreement for the sale of an aircraft object on terms that ownership does not pass until fulfilment of the condition or conditions stated in the agreement;

“unregistered interest” means a consensual interest or non-consensual right or interest (other than an interest to which Article 39 of the Cape Town Convention applies) which has not been registered, whether or not it is registrable under the Convention; and

“writing” means a record of information (including information communicated by teletransmission) which is in tangible or other form and is capable of being reproduced in tangible form on a subsequent occasion and which indicates by reasonable means a person’s approval of the record.

## PART 2

### THE INTERNATIONAL INTEREST

#### *Recognition and application*

#### **International interest to have effect in the law of the United Kingdom**

**6.—(1)** The international interest provided for by Articles 2 to 7 of the Cape Town Convention is recognised in relation to aircraft objects.

- (2) These Regulations are subject to, and to be applied in accordance with, the provisions of—
- (a) the Cape Town Convention,
  - (b) the Aircraft Protocol, and
  - (c) Protocol Regulations.

(3) In accordance with paragraph (1), the international interest has effect where the conditions of the Cape Town Convention and the Aircraft Protocol are satisfied (with no requirement to determine whether a proprietary right has been validly created or transferred pursuant to the common law *lex situs* rule).

### **Description of aircraft objects**

7.—(1) A description of an aircraft object that contains the information listed in paragraph (2) is necessary and sufficient to identify the object for the purposes of Article 7(c) of the Cape Town Convention and Article V(1)(c) of the Aircraft Protocol.

(2) The information required by paragraph (1) in relation to an aircraft object is—

- (a) its manufacturer's serial number,
- (b) the name of the manufacturer, and
- (c) its model designation.

### **Helicopters and airframes**

8.—(1) Without prejudice to Article 3(1) of the Cape Town Convention, these Regulations also apply in relation to a helicopter, or to an airframe pertaining to an aircraft, registered in an aircraft register of a Contracting State which is the State of registry.

(2) Where the registration is made pursuant to an agreement for registration of the aircraft it is deemed to have been effected at the time of the agreement.

### **Exclusions and modifications by agreement**

9.—(1) The parties may, by agreement in writing, exclude the application of regulation 37.

(2) In their relations with each other, the parties may derogate from or vary the effect of regulations 19(1) to (3), 20(1) and (2), 21, 22 and 25(1).

### *Registry, Registrar and Supervisory Authority*

#### **The Registry**

10. Schedule 3 makes provision about the International Registry established in accordance with Article 16 of the Cape Town Convention.

#### **The Registrar**

11. Schedule 3 also makes provision about the Registrar appointed in accordance with Article 17(2) of the Cape Town Convention.

#### **Supervisory Authority**

12. Schedule 4 makes provision about the Supervisory Authority established in accordance with Article 17 of the Cape Town Convention and Chapter III of the Aircraft Protocol.

#### **Enforcement of orders against the Registrar**

13.—(1) The court may make orders for or in connection with the enforcement of awards or orders made under Article 44 of the Cape Town Convention (jurisdiction to make orders against the Registrar).

(2) This regulation is without prejudice to the exclusivity of the jurisdiction provided for in that Article.

### *Registration procedure and duration*

#### **Registration procedure**

**14.**—(1) Registration of an international interest or other matter in accordance with the Cape Town Convention (including any amendment or extension) has effect for the purposes of these Regulations only if and to the extent that it complies with the provisions of Articles 18 to 20 of the Convention (registration requirements; validity and time of registration; consent to registration) as modified or supplemented by Article XX of the Aircraft Protocol and by Protocol Regulations.

(2) A document in the form prescribed by Protocol Regulations which purports to be a certificate issued by the International Registry is to be taken as evidence or, in Scotland, sufficient evidence, unless the contrary is proved—

- (a) that it has been so issued, and
- (b) of the facts recited in it, including the date and time of registration.

#### **Duration of registration**

**15.**—(1) Registration of an international interest has effect for the purposes of these Regulations while it remains effective in accordance with the provisions of Article 21 of the Cape Town Convention (duration of registration).

(2) The effect of registration is subject to the obligations imposed under Article 25 of the Cape Town Convention (discharge of registration) as modified by Article XX of the Aircraft Protocol and by Protocol Regulations.

(3) Holders of interests, intending creditors or assignees, and persons in whose favour an incorrect or erroneous registration has been made, must comply with those obligations.

(4) This regulation is subject to regulation 41.

## **PART 3**

### **EFFECT OF INTERNATIONAL INTEREST**

#### *Priority of interests*

#### **Priority of competing interests**

**16.**—(1) A registered interest has priority over any other interest subsequently registered and over an unregistered interest (but this regulation is subject to regulations 17 and 51).

(2) The priority of the registered interest under paragraph (1) applies—

- (a) even if the interest was acquired or registered with actual knowledge of the other interest; and
- (b) even as regards value given by the holder of the interest with such knowledge.

(3) The buyer of an aircraft object under a registered sale acquires its interest in it subject to an interest previously registered.

(4) The conditional buyer or lessee acquires its interest in or right over that aircraft object—

- (a) subject to an interest registered prior to the registration of the international interest held by its conditional seller or lessor; and
  - (b) free from an interest not so registered at that time even if it has actual knowledge of that interest.
- (5) A buyer of an aircraft object under a registered sale or a registered prospective sale acquires its interest in that aircraft object free from an interest subsequently registered and from an unregistered interest, even if the buyer has actual knowledge of the unregistered interest.
- (6) Ownership of or another right or interest in an aircraft engine is not affected by its installation on or removal from an aircraft.
- (7) The priority of competing interests or rights under this regulation may be varied by agreement between the holders of those interests, but an assignee of a subordinated interest is not bound by an agreement to subordinate that interest unless at the time of the assignment a subordination had been registered relating to that agreement.
- (8) Any priority given by this regulation to an interest in an aircraft object extends to proceeds.
- (9) Regulation 14(1) and 15(1) have effect in accordance with Article 19(4) of the Cape Town Convention (which provides that an interest first registered as a prospective international interest becomes an international interest and must be treated as registered from the time of registration of the prospective international interest provided that the registration was still current immediately before the international interest was constituted as provided for by Article 7 of the Cape Town Convention).
- (10) Paragraph (9) applies in relation to registration whether the registration of an international interest or of a prospective assignment of an international interest with the necessary modifications.
- (11) These Regulations—
- (a) do not affect the rights of a person in an item, other than an aircraft object, installed on an airframe, aircraft engine or helicopter, held prior to its installation if under the law of the United Kingdom those rights continue to exist after the installation; and
  - (b) do not prevent the creation of rights in an item, other than an aircraft object, which has previously been installed on an aircraft object where under the law of the United Kingdom those rights are created.

### **Overriding non-consensual rights and interests**

- 17.—(1) The categories of non-consensual right and interest listed in paragraph (2) —
- (a) have priority over an interest in an aircraft object equivalent to that of the holder of a registered international interest, and
  - (b) have priority over a registered international interest (whether in or outside insolvency proceedings).
- (2) Those rights and interests are—
- (a) a possessory lien in respect of work done on the aircraft object (whether before or after the creation or registration of the international interest or equivalent interest) on the express or implied authority of any persons lawfully entitled to possession of the aircraft object; and
  - (b) any right to detain the aircraft object under an enactment (including an Act of the Scottish Parliament, of the Northern Ireland Assembly or of the National Assembly for Wales).
- (3) Nothing in these Regulations or the Cape Town Convention affects the right of a public authority to arrest or detain an aircraft object under the law of the United Kingdom for payment of amounts owed to a public authority directly relating to public services in respect of the aircraft object or another aircraft object.
- (4) In paragraph (3) “public authority” means—

- (a) a public authority of the United Kingdom (including any Part of the United Kingdom),
- (b) a public authority of another State,
- (c) an intergovernmental organisation, and
- (d) a private provider of public services in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.

(5) This regulation applies to categories of rights and interests whether created before or after the deposit by the United Kingdom of the declaration under Article 39 of the Cape Town Convention to which this regulation gives effect.

(6) A right or interest which has priority or is preserved by virtue of this regulation has priority irrespective of whether the relevant international interest was registered before or after—

- (a) any action taken by the United Kingdom in respect of the Cape Town Convention, or
- (b) the enactment or commencement of these Regulations.

### *Remedies in case of default*

#### **Meaning of “default”**

**18.**—(1) The debtor and the creditor may at any time agree in writing as to the events that constitute a default or otherwise give rise to the rights and remedies specified in regulations 19 to 21 and 25.

(2) Where the debtor and the creditor have not so agreed, “default” for the purposes of regulations 19 to 21 and 25 means a default which substantially deprives the creditor of what it is entitled to expect under the agreement.

#### **Remedies of chargee**

**19.**—(1) This regulation applies—

- (a) where a default has occurred, but
- (b) only to the extent that the chargor has at any time agreed that the remedies specified in this regulation should apply.

(2) The chargee may exercise any one or more of the following remedies—

- (a) it may take possession or control of any aircraft object charged to it;
- (b) it may sell or grant a lease of any such aircraft object;
- (c) it may collect or receive any income or profits arising from the management or use of any such aircraft object.

(3) The chargee may alternatively apply to the court for an order authorising or directing any of the acts referred to in paragraph (2).

(4) A chargee proposing to sell or grant a lease of an aircraft object under paragraph (2) must give reasonable prior notice in writing of the proposed sale or lease to—

- (a) a debtor or guarantor and
- (b) any person other than a debtor or guarantor having rights in or over aircraft objects who has given notice of their rights to the chargee within a reasonable time prior to the sale or lease.

(5) A chargee giving ten or more working days’ prior written notice of a proposed sale or lease to interested persons is deemed to satisfy the requirement of providing reasonable prior notice in paragraph (4) (but this paragraph does not prevent a chargee and a chargor or guarantor from agreeing to a longer period of prior notice).

(6) A sum collected or received by the chargee as a result of exercise of any of the remedies set out in paragraph (2) or (3) is to be applied towards discharge of the amount of the secured obligations.

(7) Where the sums collected or received by the chargee as a result of the exercise of any remedy set out in paragraph (2) or (3) exceed the amount secured by the security interest and any reasonable costs incurred in the exercise of any such remedy, then unless otherwise ordered by the court the chargee must distribute the surplus among holders of subsequently ranking interests which have been registered or of which the chargee has been given notice, in order of priority, and pay any remaining balance to the chargor.

### **Vesting of aircraft objects in satisfaction; and redemption**

**20.**—(1) This regulation applies at any time after a default has occurred.

(2) The chargee and all the interested persons may agree that ownership of (or any other interest of the chargor in) any aircraft object covered by the security interest is to vest in the chargee in or towards satisfaction of the secured obligations.

(3) The court may on the application of the chargee order that ownership of (or any other interest of the chargor in) any aircraft object covered by the security interest is to vest in the chargee in or towards satisfaction of the secured obligations.

(4) The court may grant an application under the preceding paragraph only if the amount of the secured obligations to be satisfied by such vesting is commensurate with the value of the aircraft object after taking account of any payment to be made by the chargee to any of the interested persons.

(5) At any time before sale of the charged aircraft object or the making of an order under paragraph (3), the chargor or any interested person may discharge the security interest by paying in full the amount secured, subject to any lease granted by the chargee under regulation 19(2)(b) or ordered under regulation 19(3).

(6) Where, after such default, the payment of the amount secured is made in full by an interested person other than the debtor, that person is subrogated to the rights of the chargee.

(7) Ownership or any other interest of the chargor passing on a sale under regulation 19(2)(b) or passing under paragraph (2) or (3) is free from any other interest over which the chargee's security interest has priority under the provisions of regulation 16.

### **Remedies of conditional seller or lessor**

**21.**—(1) This regulation applies in the event of default under a title reservation agreement or under a leasing agreement.

(2) The conditional seller or the lessor, as the case may be, may—

(a) subject to any declaration that may be made by the United Kingdom under Article 54 of the Cape Town Convention, terminate the agreement and take possession or control of any aircraft object to which the agreement relates; or

(b) apply to the court for an order authorising or directing either of these acts.

### **De-registration and transfer of aircraft**

**22.**—(1) In addition to the remedies specified in the preceding provisions of this Part, the creditor may, to the extent that the debtor has at any time so agreed and in the event of a default—

(a) procure the de-registration of the aircraft; and

(b) procure the export and physical transfer of the aircraft object from the territory in which it is situated.

(2) The creditor may not exercise the remedies specified in paragraph (1) without the prior consent in writing of the holder of any registered interest ranking in priority to that of the creditor.

(3) The Civil Aviation Authority must, subject to any applicable safety laws and regulations, honour a request for de-registration and export if—

- (a) the request is properly submitted by the authorised party under a recorded irrevocable de-registration and export request authorisation; and
- (b) the authorised party certifies to the Authority that all registered interests ranking in priority to that of the creditor in whose favour the authorisation has been issued have been discharged or that the holders of such interests have consented to the de-registration and export.

(4) A chargee proposing to procure the de-registration and export of an aircraft under paragraph (1) otherwise than pursuant to a court order must give reasonable prior notice in writing of the proposed de-registration and export to—

- (a) A debtor or creditor; and
- (b) Any person other than a debtor or creditor who has given notice of their rights to the chargee within a reasonable time prior to the de-registration and export.

(5) Where the debtor has issued an irrevocable de-registration and export request authorisation substantially in the form annexed to the Aircraft Protocol and has submitted such authorisation for record to the Civil Aviation Authority, the Authority must record the authorisation.

(6) The person in whose favour the authorisation has been issued (the “authorised party”) or its certified designee is the only person entitled to exercise the remedies specified in paragraph (1).

(7) The authorised party may exercise those remedies only in accordance with the authorisation and applicable aviation safety enactments.

(8) The authorisation may not be revoked by the debtor without the consent in writing of the authorised party.

(9) The Civil Aviation Authority must remove an authorisation from the registry at the request of the authorised party.

(10) The Civil Aviation Authority must exercise its functions under the Civil Aviation Act 1982<sup>(5)</sup> and any other enactment in order to co-operate expeditiously with and assist an authorised party in the exercise of the remedies specified in paragraph (1).

(11) Any other public authority must exercise any relevant function for that purpose.

### **Additional remedies**

**23.** Any additional remedies available in accordance with the applicable law, including any remedies agreed upon by the parties, may be exercised to the extent that they are not inconsistent with provisions which may not be waived by agreement under these Regulations or the Cape Town Convention.

### **Requirement of commercial reasonableness**

**24.**—(1) Any remedy given by these Regulations in relation to an aircraft object must be exercised in a commercially reasonable manner.

(2) A remedy is deemed to be exercised in a commercially reasonable manner where it is exercised in conformity with a provision of the agreement except where such a provision is manifestly unreasonable.

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(5) 1982 c.16.

**Relief pending final determination**

**25.—(1)** A creditor who adduces evidence of default by the debtor may, pending final determination of its claim and to the extent that the debtor has at any time so agreed, obtain from the court relief in the form of such one or more of the following orders as the creditor requests—

- (a) preservation of the aircraft object and its value;
- (b) possession, control or custody of the aircraft object;
- (c) immobilisation of the aircraft object;
- (d) lease or, except where covered by paragraphs (a) to (c), management of the aircraft object and the income from it; and
- (e) if at any time the debtor and the creditor specifically agree, sale and application of proceeds.

(2) In making any order under paragraph (1), the court may impose such terms as it considers necessary to protect the interested persons in the event that the creditor—

- (a) in implementing any order granting such relief, fails to perform any of its obligations to the debtor under these Regulations (or the Cape Town Convention or the Aircraft Protocol); or
- (b) fails to establish its claim, wholly or in part, on the final determination of that claim.

(3) Before making an order under paragraph (1), the court may require notice of the request to be given to any of the interested persons.

(4) Nothing in this regulation affects the application of regulation 24 or limits the availability of forms of interim relief other than those set out in paragraph (1).

*Position where no default***Debtor's rights**

**26.—(1)** In the absence of a default, the debtor is entitled to the quiet possession and use of the aircraft object in accordance with the agreement as against—

- (a) its creditor and the holder of any interest from which the debtor takes free pursuant to regulation 16(4) or, in the capacity of buyer, regulation 16(5), unless and to the extent that the debtor has otherwise agreed; and
- (b) the holder of any interest to which the debtor's right or interest is subject pursuant to regulation 16(4) or, in the capacity of buyer, regulation 16(3) but only to the extent, if any, that such holder has agreed.

(2) Nothing in these Regulations (or the Cape Town Convention or Aircraft Protocol) affects the liability of a creditor for any breach of the agreement under the law of any Part of the United Kingdom in so far as that agreement relates to an aircraft object.

*Assignment***Effect of assignment**

**27.—(1)** Except as otherwise agreed by the parties, an assignment of associated rights made in conformity with regulation 28 also transfers to the assignee—

- (a) the related international interest; and
- (b) all the interests and priorities of the assignor under these Regulations and the Cape Town Convention.

(2) Nothing in these Regulations prevents a partial assignment of the assignor's associated rights.

(3) In the case of a partial assignment the assignor and assignee may agree as to their respective rights concerning the related international interest assigned under paragraph (1) but not so as adversely to affect the debtor without its consent.

(4) Subject to paragraph (5), the applicable law determines the defences and rights of set-off available to the debtor against the assignee.

(5) The debtor may at any time by agreement in writing waive all or any of the defences and rights of set-off referred to in paragraph (4) other than defences arising from fraudulent acts on the part of the assignee.

(6) In the case of an assignment by way of security, the assigned associated rights re-vest in the assignor, to the extent that they are still subsisting, when the obligations secured by the assignment have been discharged.

### **Formal requirements of assignment**

**28.**—(1) An assignment of associated rights transfers the related international interest only if it—

- (a) is in writing;
- (b) enables the associated rights to be identified under the contract from which they arise; and
- (c) in the case of an assignment by way of security, enables the obligations secured by the assignment to be determined in accordance with the Aircraft Protocol but without the need to state a sum or maximum sum secured.

(2) An assignment of an international interest created or provided for by a security agreement is not valid unless some or all related associated rights also are assigned.

(3) These Regulations do not apply to an assignment of associated rights which is not effective to transfer the related international interest.

### **Debtor's duty to assignee**

**29.**—(1) To the extent that associated rights and the related international interest have been transferred in accordance with regulations 27 and 28, the debtor in relation to those rights and that interest is bound by the assignment and has a duty to make payment or give other performance to the assignee, if (but only if)—

- (a) the debtor has been given notice of the assignment in writing by or with the authority of the assignor,
- (b) the notice identifies the associated rights, and
- (c) the debtor has consented in writing (whether or not the consent is given in advance of the assignment or identifies the assignee).

(2) Irrespective of any other ground on which payment or performance by the debtor discharges the latter from liability, payment or performance is effective for this purpose if made in accordance with paragraph (1).

(3) Nothing in this regulation affects the priority of competing assignments.

### **Default remedies in respect of assignment by way of security**

**30.** In the event of default by the assignor under the assignment of associated rights and the related international interest made by way of security, regulations 18, 19, 20, 23, 25 and 48 apply in the relations between the assignor and the assignee (and, in relation to associated rights, apply in so far as those provisions are capable of application to intangible property) as if references—

- (a) to the secured obligation and the security interest were references to the obligation secured by the assignment of the associated rights and the related international interest and the security interest created by that assignment;
- (b) to the chargee or creditor and chargor or debtor were references to the assignee and assignor;
- (c) to the holder of the international interest were references to the assignee; and
- (d) to the aircraft object were references to the assigned associated rights and the related international interest.

### **Priority of competing assignments**

**31.**—(1) Where there are competing assignments of associated rights, and—

- (a) at least one of the assignments includes the related international interest, and
- (b) the assignment of the international interest is registered,

the provisions of regulation 16 apply as if—

- (a) references to a registered or unregistered interest were references to a registered or unregistered assignment, and
- (b) references to a registered interest were references to a prospective assignment of the associated rights.

(2) Regulation 36 applies to an assignment of associated rights as if the references to an international interest were references to an assignment of the associated rights and the related international interest.

### **Assignee's priority with respect to associated rights**

**32.**—(1) The assignee of associated rights and the related international interest whose assignment has been registered only has priority under regulation 31(1) over another assignee of the associated rights—

- (a) if the contract under which the associated rights arise states that they are secured by or associated with the aircraft object; and
- (b) to the extent that the associated rights are related to an aircraft object.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(b), associated rights are related to an aircraft object only to the extent that they consist of rights to payment or performance that relate to—

- (a) a sum advanced and utilised for the purchase of the aircraft object;
- (b) a sum advanced and utilised for the purchase of another aircraft object in which the assignor held another international interest if the assignor transferred that interest to the assignee and the assignment has been registered;
- (c) the price payable for the aircraft object;
- (d) the rentals payable in respect of the aircraft object; or
- (e) other obligations arising from a transaction referred to in any of sub-paragraphs (a) to (d).

(3) In all other cases, the priority of the competing assignments of the associated rights is to be determined by the applicable law.

### **Effect of assignor's insolvency**

**33.** The provisions of regulation 36 apply to insolvency proceedings against the assignor as if references to the debtor were references to the assignor.

## **Subrogation**

**34.**—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), nothing in these Regulations affects the acquisition of associated rights and the related international interest by legal or contractual subrogation under the applicable law.

(2) The priority between any interest within paragraph (1) and a competing interest may be varied by agreement in writing between the holders of the respective interests; but an assignee of a subordinated interest is not bound by an agreement to subordinate that interest unless at the time of the assignment a subordination had been registered relating to that agreement.

## **Application to Scotland**

**35.** In the application of regulation 16(7) and regulations 27 to 34 to Scotland—

- (a) a reference to an assignment means a contract or conveyance or any other form of transfer which, whether by security or otherwise, confers on the assignee associated rights with or without a transfer of the related international interest,
- (b) a reference to assignment is a reference to assignation,
- (c) a reference to an assignor is a reference to a cedent, and
- (d) a reference to intangible property is a reference to incorporeal property.

## *Insolvency*

### **Effects of insolvency**

**36.**—(1) In insolvency proceedings against the debtor an international interest is effective if prior to the commencement of the insolvency proceedings that interest was registered in conformity with the Cape Town Convention and the Aircraft Protocol.

(2) Nothing in this regulation impairs the effectiveness of an international interest in the insolvency proceedings where that interest is effective under the law of the United Kingdom or the applicable law.

(3) Nothing in this regulation affects—

- (a) any rules of law applicable in insolvency proceedings relating to the avoidance of a transaction as a preference or a transfer to the detriment of creditors; or
- (b) any rules of procedure relating to the enforcement of rights to property which is under the control or supervision of the insolvency office holder.

### **Remedies on insolvency**

**37.**—(1) Upon the occurrence of an insolvency-related event, the insolvency office holder must, subject to paragraph (5), give possession of any aircraft object, in respect of which an international interest has been registered, to the creditor no later than the earlier of—

- (a) the end of the waiting period; and
- (b) the date on which the creditor would be entitled to possession of the aircraft object if this regulation did not apply.

(2) For the purposes of this regulation, the “waiting period” is 60 days from the date of the insolvency-related event.

(3) References in this regulation to the “insolvency office holder” are references to that person in an official, not in a personal capacity.

(4) Unless and until the creditor is given the opportunity to take possession under paragraph (1)—

- (a) the insolvency office holder must preserve the aircraft object and maintain it and its value in accordance with the agreement; and
  - (b) the creditor is entitled to apply for any other forms of interim relief available under the law of the United Kingdom.
- (5) Paragraph (4)(a) does not preclude the use of the aircraft object under arrangements designed to preserve the aircraft object and maintain it and its value.
- (6) The insolvency office holder may retain possession of the aircraft object where, by the time specified in paragraph (1), it has cured all defaults other than a default constituted by the commencement of insolvency proceedings and has agreed to perform all continuing obligations under the agreement; and a second waiting period does not apply in respect of a default in the performance of such continuing obligations.
- (7) With regard to the remedies in regulation 22(1)—
- (a) they must be made available by the Civil Aviation Authority, no later than five working days after the date on which the creditor notifies the Authority that it is entitled to procure those remedies in accordance with the Cape Town Convention; and
  - (b) the Civil Aviation Authority must exercise its functions under the Civil Aviation Act 1982(6) and any other enactment in order expeditiously to co-operate with and assist the creditor in the exercise of such remedies.
- (8) No exercise of remedies permitted by these Regulations may be prevented or delayed after the date specified in paragraph (1).
- (9) No obligations of the debtor under the agreement may be modified without the consent of the creditor.
- (10) Nothing in paragraph (9) affects the authority, if any, of the insolvency office holder under the law of the United Kingdom to terminate the agreement.
- (11) No rights or interests, except for non-consensual rights or interests of a category covered by regulation 17, have priority in insolvency proceedings over registered interests.
- (12) In the application of this regulation—
- (a) the provisions of this regulation are in addition to the provisions of Part 1 of the Insolvency Act 1986 (in the case of company voluntary arrangements) and Schedule B1 to that Act (in the case of administration);
  - (b) paragraph 43 (moratorium on other legal process) and paragraph 44 (interim moratorium) of Schedule B1 do not apply after the end of the waiting period under this regulation;
  - (c) a payment made for the purpose of maintaining and preserving the aircraft object in accordance with paragraph (4) is an expense of administration;
  - (d) a payment made for the purpose of curing a default as mentioned in paragraph (6) for the purpose of retaining possession is an expense of administration;
  - (e) paragraphs 71 and 72 of Schedule B1 (court's power to permit disposal of property subject to security or hire-purchase agreement) do not apply;
  - (f) the end of the waiting period under this regulation is without prejudice to the continuation of insolvency proceedings in respect of assets to which these Regulations do not apply;
  - (g) the notice under paragraph 46 of Schedule B1 must include a statement that this regulation applies, together with a statement of the effect of the application of this regulation;
  - (h) the statement of the administrator's proposals under paragraph 49 of Schedule B1 must include details of what the administrator proposes in respect of assets to which this regulation applies;

- (i) the application of Schedule A1 to the 1986 Act (moratorium where company voluntary arrangement proposed) is subject to paragraphs (a) to (h) (with any necessary modifications);
- (j) sections 254(1)(b) and 256(4) and (5) of the 1986 Act (individual voluntary arrangements: interim orders) do not apply after the end of the waiting period under this regulation.
- (k) the statement of information under section 256(2)(b)(ii) must include a statement that this regulation applies, together with a statement of the effect of the application of this regulation.

(13) In this regulation “insolvency-related event” means the commencement of insolvency proceedings, or the declared intention to suspend or actual suspension of payments by the debtor where the creditor’s right to institute insolvency proceedings against the debtor or to exercise remedies under the Cape Town Convention is prevented or suspended by law or State action.

(14) In this regulation references to the Insolvency Act 1986 include references to the equivalent provisions of the Insolvency (Northern Ireland) Order 1989(7).

## PART 4

### APPLICATION TO SALES

#### **Application of Regulations to sales and prospective sales**

**38.**—(1) The following provisions of these Regulations apply in relation to sales and prospective sales—

- (a) regulation 6 in so far as it implements Articles 3 and 4 of the Cape Town Convention and Article III of the Aircraft Protocol;
- (b) regulation 10 and Schedule 3 in so far as they implement Article 16(1)(a) of the Cape Town Convention;
- (c) regulation 14 in so far as it implements Article 19(4) of the Cape Town Convention;
- (d) regulation 14 in so far as it implements Article 20(1) of the Cape Town Convention (as regards registration of a contract of sale or a prospective sale);
- (e) regulation 15 in so far as it implements Article 25(2) of the Cape Town Convention (as regards a prospective sale); and
- (f) regulation 36.

(2) In the application of those provisions to sales and prospective sales—

- (a) references to an agreement creating or providing for an international interest are to be treated as references to a contract of sale;
- (b) references to an international interest are to be treated as references to a sale;
- (c) references to the debtor are to be treated as references to the seller; and
- (d) references to the creditor are to be treated as references to the buyer.

(3) In addition, the provisions of the following regulations apply generally to contracts of sale and prospective sales—

- (a) regulation 5 in so far as it implements Article 1 of the Cape Town Convention;
- (b) regulation 5 in so far as it implements Article 5 of the Cape Town Convention;
- (c) regulations 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15;

- (d) regulation 16;
- (e) regulation 17;
- (f) regulations 42 and 46.

### **Formalities**

- 39.** For the purposes of this Part, a contract of sale is one which—
- (a) is in writing;
  - (b) relates to an aircraft object of which the seller has power to dispose; and
  - (c) enables the aircraft object to be identified in conformity with these Regulations and the Aircraft Protocol.

### **Effect of sale**

**40.** A contract of sale transfers the interest of the seller in the aircraft object to the buyer according to its terms.

### **Duration of registration (sales and prospective sales)**

- 41.—**(1) Registration of a contract of sale remains effective indefinitely.
- (2) Registration of a prospective sale remains effective unless discharged or until expiry of the period, if any, specified in the registration.

## **PART 5 PROCEDURE**

### *Jurisdiction*

#### **Choice of forum**

**42.—**(1) Where the parties to a transaction make a written choice that the courts of any Part of the United Kingdom are to have jurisdiction in respect of claims brought under the Cape Town Convention, the courts have jurisdiction in accordance with this regulation.

- (2) Jurisdiction in accordance with paragraph (1)—
- (a) applies whether or not the United Kingdom has a connection with the parties or the transaction; and
  - (b) is exclusive unless otherwise agreed between the parties.

(3) The courts of any Part of the United Kingdom must give effect to choices of jurisdiction made in accordance with Article 42 of the Cape Town Convention as a result of which courts of another Contracting State have jurisdiction.

#### **Grant of relief**

**43.—**(1) The courts of any Part of the United Kingdom may grant relief in respect of an aircraft object under regulation 25(1)(a), (b) or (c) if—

- (a) those courts are chosen by the parties, or
- (b) the aircraft object is situated in the United Kingdom.

(2) The courts of any Part of the United Kingdom may grant relief under regulation 25(1)(d) and (e) or other interim relief by virtue of regulation 25(4) if—

- (a) those courts are chosen by the parties, or
- (b) the debtor is situated in the United Kingdom, where the relief is granted in terms under which it is enforceable only in the United Kingdom.

(3) Paragraphs (1) and (2) apply even if the final determination of the claim referred to in regulation 25(1) will or may take place in a court of another Contracting State or by arbitration.

### **Courts with UK jurisdiction**

**44.** Where the courts of any Part of the United Kingdom have jurisdiction in accordance with this regulation, the jurisdiction is to be exercised—

- (a) in England and Wales, by the High Court;
- (b) in Scotland, by the Court of Session;
- (c) in Northern Ireland, by the High Court.

### **Exclusion of insolvency proceedings**

**45.** Regulations 42 to 44 do not apply to insolvency proceedings.

### **Waiver of sovereign immunity**

**46.—**(1) A waiver of sovereign immunity from jurisdiction of the courts specified in regulation 42 or 44 or relating to enforcement of rights and interests relating to an aircraft object under these Regulations or the Cape Town Convention—

- (a) is binding, and
- (b) if the other conditions for jurisdiction or enforcement have been satisfied, is effective to confer jurisdiction and permit enforcement.

(2) A waiver must—

- (a) be in writing, and
- (b) contain a description of the aircraft object.

### **Interpretation: “the court”**

**47.** A reference in these Regulations to “the court” is a reference to a court which has jurisdiction in accordance with this Part (or which has jurisdiction to hear insolvency proceedings, as the case may be).

### *Rules of court*

### **Effect of Rules of court**

**48.—**(1) A provision of these Regulations which provides for a remedy to be available from the court has effect in accordance with any applicable Rules of court.

(2) The Rules of court may make provision about matters (including time limits) arising in relation to rights under these Regulations, the Cape Town Convention or the Aircraft Protocol.

## PART 6

### GENERAL

#### **Representative capacities**

**49.**—(1) A person who does an act listed in paragraph (2) in an agency, trust or other representative capacity is entitled to assert rights and interests under the Cape Town Convention.

(2) This subsection applies to the following acts—

- (a) entering into an agreement in respect of an aircraft object,
- (b) entering into a sale of an aircraft object,
- (c) registering an international interest in an aircraft object, and
- (d) registering a sale of an aircraft object.

#### **Consequential amendments**

**50.** The enactments listed in Schedule 5 are amended as specified.

#### **Transitional provision**

**51.** These Regulations do not apply to a pre-existing right or interest, which retains the priority it enjoyed under the law of the United Kingdom before the effective date of these Regulations.

#### **Review**

**52.**—(1) The Secretary of State must, as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of the period of 5 years beginning with the day on which these Regulations come into force—

- (a) carry out a review of the effect of these Regulations, and
  - (b) prepare and publish a report setting out the conclusions of the review.
- (2) The report must in particular—
- (a) set out the objectives to be achieved by these Regulations, and
  - (b) assess the extent to which those objectives have been achieved.
- (3) The Secretary of State must lay the report before Parliament.

23rd March 2015

*Matthew Hancock*  
Minister of State for Business and Enterprise and  
Energy  
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills

SCHEDULE 1

Regulation 4(4)

TEXT OF CAPE TOWN CONVENTION

**CONVENTION**

**ON INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS IN MOBILE EQUIPMENT**

THE STATES PARTIES TO THIS CONVENTION,

AWARE of the need to acquire and use mobile equipment of high value or particular economic significance and to facilitate the financing of the acquisition and use of such equipment in an efficient manner,

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

MINDFUL of the need to ensure that interests in such equipment are recognised and protected universally,

DESIRING to provide broad and mutual economic benefits for all interested parties,

BELIEVING that such rules must reflect the principles underlying asset-based financing and leasing and promote the autonomy of the parties necessary in these transactions,

CONSCIOUS of the need to establish a legal framework for international interests in such equipment and for that purpose to create an international registration system for their protection,

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION the objectives and principles enunciated in existing Conventions relating to such equipment,

HAVE AGREED upon the following provisions:

**Chapter I**

**Sphere of application and general provisions**

**Article 1 — Definitions**

In this Convention, except where the context otherwise requires, the following terms are employed with the meanings set out below:

- (a) “agreement” means a security agreement, a title reservation agreement or a leasing agreement;

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- (b) “assignment” means a contract which, whether by way of security or otherwise, confers on the assignee associated rights with or without a transfer of the related international interest;
- (c) “associated rights” means all rights to payment or other performance by a debtor under an agreement which are secured by or associated with the object;
- (d) “commencement of the insolvency proceedings” means the time at which the insolvency proceedings are deemed to commence under the applicable insolvency law;
- (e) “conditional buyer” means a buyer under a title reservation agreement;
- (f) “conditional seller” means a seller under a title reservation agreement;
- (g) “contract of sale” means a contract for the sale of an object by a seller to a buyer which is not an agreement as defined in (a) above;
- (h) “court” means a court of law or an administrative or arbitral tribunal established by a Contracting State;
- (i) “creditor” means a chargee under a security agreement, a conditional seller under a title reservation agreement or a lessor under a leasing agreement;
- (j) “debtor” means a chargor under a security agreement, a conditional buyer under a title reservation agreement, a lessee under a leasing agreement or a person whose interest in an object is burdened by a registrable non-consensual right or interest;
- (k) “insolvency administrator” means a person authorised to administer the reorganisation or liquidation, including one authorised on an interim basis, and includes a debtor in possession if permitted by the applicable insolvency law;
- (l) “insolvency proceedings” means bankruptcy, liquidation or other collective judicial or administrative proceedings, including interim proceedings, in which the assets and affairs of the debtor are subject to control or supervision by a court for the purposes of reorganisation or liquidation;
- (m) “interested persons” means:
  - (i) the debtor;
  - (ii) any person who, for the purpose of assuring performance of any of the obligations in favour of the creditor, gives or issues a suretyship or demand guarantee or a standby letter of credit or any other form of credit insurance;
  - (iii) any other person having rights in or over the object;
- (n) “internal transaction” means a transaction of a type listed in Article 2(2)(a) to (c) where the centre of the main interests of all parties to such transaction is situated, and the relevant object located (as specified in the Protocol), in the same Contracting State at the

time of the conclusion of the contract and where the interest created by the transaction has been registered in a national registry in that Contracting State which has made a declaration under Article 50(1);

- (o) “international interest” means an interest held by a creditor to which Article 2 applies;
- (p) “International Registry” means the international registration facilities established for the purposes of this Convention or the Protocol;
- (q) “leasing agreement” means an agreement by which one person (the lessor) grants a right to possession or control of an object (with or without an option to purchase) to another person (the lessee) in return for a rental or other payment;
- (r) “national interest” means an interest held by a creditor in an object and created by an internal transaction covered by a declaration under Article 50(1);
- (s) “non-consensual right or interest” means a right or interest conferred under the law of a Contracting State which has made a declaration under Article 39 to secure the performance of an obligation, including an obligation to a State, State entity or an intergovernmental or private organisation;
- (t) “notice of a national interest” means notice registered or to be registered in the International Registry that a national interest has been created;
- (u) “object” means an object of a category to which Article 2 applies;
- (v) “pre-existing right or interest” means a right or interest of any kind in or over an object created or arising before the effective date of this Convention as defined by Article 60(2)(a);
- (w) “proceeds” means money or non-money proceeds of an object arising from the total or partial loss or physical destruction of the object or its total or partial confiscation, condemnation or requisition;
- (x) “prospective assignment” means an assignment that is intended to be made in the future, upon the occurrence of a stated event, whether or not the occurrence of the event is certain;
- (y) “prospective international interest” means an interest that is intended to be created or provided for in an object as an international interest in the future, upon the occurrence of a stated event (which may include the debtor’s acquisition of an interest in the object), whether or not the occurrence of the event is certain;
- (z) “prospective sale” means a sale which is intended to be made in the future, upon the occurrence of a stated event, whether or not the occurrence of the event is certain;
- (aa) “Protocol” means, in respect of any category of object and associated rights to which this Convention applies, the Protocol in respect of that category of object and associated rights;

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- (bb) “registered” means registered in the International Registry pursuant to Chapter V;
- (cc) “registered interest” means an international interest, a registrable non-consensual right or interest or a national interest specified in a notice of a national interest registered pursuant to Chapter V;
- (dd) “registrable non-consensual right or interest” means a non-consensual right or interest registrable pursuant to a declaration deposited under Article 40;
- (ee) “Registrar” means, in respect of the Protocol, the person or body designated by that Protocol or appointed under Article 17(2)(b);
- (ff) “regulations” means regulations made or approved by the Supervisory Authority pursuant to the Protocol;
- (gg) “sale” means a transfer of ownership of an object pursuant to a contract of sale;
- (hh) “secured obligation” means an obligation secured by a security interest;
- (ii) “security agreement” means an agreement by which a chargor grants or agrees to grant to a chargee an interest (including an ownership interest) in or over an object to secure the performance of any existing or future obligation of the chargor or a third person;
- (jj) “security interest” means an interest created by a security agreement;
- (kk) “Supervisory Authority” means, in respect of the Protocol, the Supervisory Authority referred to in Article 17(1);
- (ll) “title reservation agreement” means an agreement for the sale of an object on terms that ownership does not pass until fulfilment of the condition or conditions stated in the agreement;
- (mm) “unregistered interest” means a consensual interest or non-consensual right or interest (other than an interest to which Article 39 applies) which has not been registered, whether or not it is registrable under this Convention; and
- (nn) “writing” means a record of information (including information communicated by teletransmission) which is in tangible or other form and is capable of being reproduced in tangible form on a subsequent occasion and which indicates by reasonable means a person’s approval of the record.

## **Article 2 — The international interest**

1. This Convention provides for the constitution and effects of an international interest in certain categories of mobile equipment and associated rights.

2. For the purposes of this Convention, an international interest in mobile equipment is an interest, constituted under Article 7, in a uniquely identifiable object of a category of such objects listed in paragraph 3 and designated in the Protocol:

- (a) granted by the chargor under a security agreement;
- (b) vested in a person who is the conditional seller under a title reservation agreement; or
- (c) vested in a person who is the lessor under a leasing agreement.

An interest falling within sub-paragraph (a) does not also fall within sub-paragraph (b) or (c).

3. The categories referred to in the preceding paragraphs are:

- (a) airframes, aircraft engines and helicopters;
- (b) railway rolling stock; and
- (c) space assets.

4. The applicable law determines whether an interest to which paragraph 2 applies falls within subparagraph (a), (b) or (c) of that paragraph.

5. An international interest in an object extends to proceeds of that object.

### **Article 3 — Sphere of application**

1. This Convention applies when, at the time of the conclusion of the agreement creating or providing for the international interest, the debtor is situated in a Contracting State.

2. The fact that the creditor is situated in a non-Contracting State does not affect the applicability of this Convention.

### **Article 4 — Where debtor is situated**

1. For the purposes of Article 3(1), the debtor is situated in any Contracting State:

- (a) under the law of which it is incorporated or formed;
- (b) where it has its registered office or statutory seat;
- (c) where it has its centre of administration; or
- (d) where it has its place of business.

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2. A reference in sub-paragraph (d) of the preceding paragraph to the debtor's place of business shall, if it has more than one place of business, mean its principal place of business or, if it has no place of business, its habitual residence.

#### **Article 5 — Interpretation and applicable law**

1. In the interpretation of this Convention, regard is to be had to its purposes as set forth in the preamble, to its international character and to the need to promote uniformity and predictability in its application.

2. Questions concerning matters governed by this Convention which are not expressly settled in it are to be settled in conformity with the general principles on which it is based or, in the absence of such principles, in conformity with the applicable law.

3. References to the applicable law are to the domestic rules of the law applicable by virtue of the rules of private international law of the forum State.

4. Where a State comprises several territorial units, each of which has its own rules of law in respect of the matter to be decided, and where there is no indication of the relevant territorial unit, the law of that State decides which is the territorial unit whose rules shall govern. In the absence of any such rule, the law of the territorial unit with which the case is most closely connected shall apply.

#### **Article 6 — Relationship between the Convention and the Protocol**

1. This Convention and the Protocol shall be read and interpreted together as a single instrument.

2. To the extent of any inconsistency between this Convention and the Protocol, the Protocol shall prevail.

### **Chapter II**

#### **Constitution of an international interest**

##### **Article 7 — Formal requirements**

An interest is constituted as an international interest under this Convention where the agreement creating or providing for the interest:

- (a) is in writing;
- (b) relates to an object of which the chargor, conditional seller or lessor has power to dispose;

- (c) enables the object to be identified in conformity with the Protocol; and
- (d) in the case of a security agreement, enables the secured obligations to be determined, but without the need to state a sum or maximum sum secured.

## **Chapter III**

### **Default remedies**

#### **Article 8 — Remedies of chargee**

1. In the event of default as provided in Article 11, the chargee may, to the extent that the chargor has at any time so agreed and subject to any declaration that may be made by a Contracting State under Article 54, exercise any one or more of the following remedies:
  - (a) take possession or control of any object charged to it;
  - (b) sell or grant a lease of any such object;
  - (c) collect or receive any income or profits arising from the management or use of any such object.
2. The chargee may alternatively apply for a court order authorising or directing any of the acts referred to in the preceding paragraph.
3. Any remedy set out in sub-paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of paragraph 1 or by Article 13 shall be exercised in a commercially reasonable manner. A remedy shall be deemed to be exercised in a commercially reasonable manner where it is exercised in conformity with a provision of the security agreement except where such a provision is manifestly unreasonable.
4. A chargee proposing to sell or grant a lease of an object under paragraph 1 shall give reasonable prior notice in writing of the proposed sale or lease to:
  - (a) interested persons specified in Article 1(m)(i) and (ii); and
  - (b) interested persons specified in Article 1(m)(iii) who have given notice of their rights to the chargee within a reasonable time prior to the sale or lease.
5. Any sum collected or received by the chargee as a result of exercise of any of the remedies set out in paragraph 1 or 2 shall be applied towards discharge of the amount of the secured obligations.
6. Where the sums collected or received by the chargee as a result of the exercise of any remedy set out in paragraph 1 or 2 exceed the amount secured by the security interest and any reasonable costs incurred in the exercise of any such remedy, then unless otherwise ordered by the court the chargee shall distribute the surplus among holders of subsequently ranking interests which have been registered

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or of which the chargee has been given notice, in order of priority, and pay any remaining balance to the chargor.

#### **Article 9 — Vesting of object in satisfaction; redemption**

1. At any time after default as provided in Article 11, the chargee and all the interested persons may agree that ownership of (or any other interest of the chargor in) any object covered by the security interest shall vest in the chargee in or towards satisfaction of the secured obligations.
2. The court may on the application of the chargee order that ownership of (or any other interest of the chargor in) any object covered by the security interest shall vest in the chargee in or towards satisfaction of the secured obligations.
3. The court shall grant an application under the preceding paragraph only if the amount of the secured obligations to be satisfied by such vesting is commensurate with the value of the object after taking account of any payment to be made by the chargee to any of the interested persons.
4. At any time after default as provided in Article 11 and before sale of the charged object or the making of an order under paragraph 2, the chargor or any interested person may discharge the security interest by paying in full the amount secured, subject to any lease granted by the chargee under Article 8(1)(b) or ordered under Article 8(2). Where, after such default, the payment of the amount secured is made in full by an interested person other than the debtor, that person is subrogated to the rights of the chargee.
5. Ownership or any other interest of the chargor passing on a sale under Article 8(1)(b) or passing under paragraph 1 or 2 of this Article is free from any other interest over which the chargee's security interest has priority under the provisions of Article 29.

#### **Article 10 — Remedies of conditional seller or lessor**

In the event of default under a title reservation agreement or under a leasing agreement as provided in Article 11, the conditional seller or the lessor, as the case may be, may:

- (a) subject to any declaration that may be made by a Contracting State under Article 54, terminate the agreement and take possession or control of any object to which the agreement relates; or
- (b) apply for a court order authorising or directing either of these acts.

#### **Article 11 — Meaning of default**

1. The debtor and the creditor may at any time agree in writing as to the events that constitute a default or otherwise give rise to the rights and remedies specified in Articles 8 to 10 and 13.

2. Where the debtor and the creditor have not so agreed, “default” for the purposes of Articles 8 to 10 and 13 means a default which substantially deprives the creditor of what it is entitled to expect under the agreement.

#### **Article 12 — Additional remedies**

Any additional remedies permitted by the applicable law, including any remedies agreed upon by the parties, may be exercised to the extent that they are not inconsistent with the mandatory provisions of this Chapter as set out in Article 15.

#### **Article 13 — Relief pending final determination**

1. Subject to any declaration that it may make under Article 55, a Contracting State shall ensure that a creditor who adduces evidence of default by the debtor may, pending final determination of its claim and to the extent that the debtor has at any time so agreed, obtain from a court speedy relief in the form of such one or more of the following orders as the creditor requests:

- (a) preservation of the object and its value;
- (b) possession, control or custody of the object;
- (c) immobilisation of the object; and
- (d) lease or, except where covered by sub-paragraphs (a) to (c), management of the object and the income therefrom.

2. In making any order under the preceding paragraph, the court may impose such terms as it considers necessary to protect the interested persons in the event that the creditor:

- (a) in implementing any order granting such relief, fails to perform any of its obligations to the debtor under this Convention or the Protocol; or
- (b) fails to establish its claim, wholly or in part, on the final determination of that claim.

3. Before making any order under paragraph 1, the court may require notice of the request to be given to any of the interested persons.

4. Nothing in this Article affects the application of Article 8(3) or limits the availability of forms of interim relief other than those set out in paragraph 1.

#### **Article 14 — Procedural requirements**

Subject to Article 54(2), any remedy provided by this Chapter shall be exercised in conformity with the procedure prescribed by the law of the place where the remedy is to be exercised.

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#### **Article 15 — Derogation**

In their relations with each other, any two or more of the parties referred to in this Chapter may at any time, by agreement in writing, derogate from or vary the effect of any of the preceding provisions of this Chapter except Articles 8(3) to (6), 9(3) and (4), 13(2) and 14.

### **Chapter IV**

#### **The international registration system**

##### **Article 16 — The International Registry**

1. An International Registry shall be established for registrations of:
  - (a) international interests, prospective international interests and registrable non-consensual rights and interests;
  - (b) assignments and prospective assignments of international interests;
  - (c) acquisitions of international interests by legal or contractual subrogations under the applicable law;
  - (d) notices of national interests; and
  - (e) subordinations of interests referred to in any of the preceding sub-paragraphs.
2. Different international registries may be established for different categories of object and associated rights.
3. For the purposes of this Chapter and Chapter V, the term “registration” includes, where appropriate, an amendment, extension or discharge of a registration.

##### **Article 17 — The Supervisory Authority and the Registrar**

1. There shall be a Supervisory Authority as provided by the Protocol.
2. The Supervisory Authority shall:
  - (a) establish or provide for the establishment of the International Registry;
  - (b) except as otherwise provided by the Protocol, appoint and dismiss the Registrar;
  - (c) ensure that any rights required for the continued effective operation of the International Registry in the event of a change of Registrar will vest in or be assignable to the new Registrar;

- (d) after consultation with the Contracting States, make or approve and ensure the publication of regulations pursuant to the Protocol dealing with the operation of the International Registry;
  - (e) establish administrative procedures through which complaints concerning the operation of the International Registry can be made to the Supervisory Authority;
  - (f) supervise the Registrar and the operation of the International Registry;
  - (g) at the request of the Registrar, provide such guidance to the Registrar as the Supervisory Authority thinks fit;
  - (h) set and periodically review the structure of fees to be charged for the services and facilities of the International Registry;
  - (i) do all things necessary to ensure that an efficient notice-based electronic registration system exists to implement the objectives of this Convention and the Protocol; and
  - (j) report periodically to Contracting States concerning the discharge of its obligations under this Convention and the Protocol.
3. The Supervisory Authority may enter into any agreement requisite for the performance of its functions, including any agreement referred to in Article 27(3).
4. The Supervisory Authority shall own all proprietary rights in the data bases and archives of the International Registry.
5. The Registrar shall ensure the efficient operation of the International Registry and perform the functions assigned to it by this Convention, the Protocol and the regulations.

## **Chapter V**

### **Other matters relating to registration**

#### **Article 18 — Registration requirements**

1. The Protocol and regulations shall specify the requirements, including the criteria for the identification of the object:
- (a) for effecting a registration (which shall include provision for prior electronic transmission of any consent from any person whose consent is required under Article 20);
  - (b) for making searches and issuing search certificates, and, subject thereto;
  - (c) for ensuring the confidentiality of information and documents of the International Registry other than information and documents relating to a registration.

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2. The Registrar shall not be under a duty to enquire whether a consent to registration under Article 20 has in fact been given or is valid.
3. Where an interest registered as a prospective international interest becomes an international interest, no further registration shall be required provided that the registration information is sufficient for a registration of an international interest.
4. The Registrar shall arrange for registrations to be entered into the International Registry data base and made searchable in chronological order of receipt, and the file shall record the date and time of receipt.
5. The Protocol may provide that a Contracting State may designate an entity or entities in its territory as the entry point or entry points through which the information required for registration shall or may be transmitted to the International Registry. A Contracting State making such a designation may specify the requirements, if any, to be satisfied before such information is transmitted to the International Registry.

#### **Article 19 — Validity and time of registration**

1. A registration shall be valid only if made in conformity with Article 20.
2. A registration, if valid, shall be complete upon entry of the required information into the International Registry data base so as to be searchable.
3. A registration shall be searchable for the purposes of the preceding paragraph at the time when:
  - (a) the International Registry has assigned to it a sequentially ordered file number; and
  - (b) the registration information, including the file number, is stored in durable form and may be accessed at the International Registry.
4. If an interest first registered as a prospective international interest becomes an international interest, that international interest shall be treated as registered from the time of registration of the prospective international interest provided that the registration was still current immediately before the international interest was constituted as provided by Article 7.
5. The preceding paragraph applies with necessary modifications to the registration of a prospective assignment of an international interest.
6. A registration shall be searchable in the International Registry data base according to the criteria prescribed by the Protocol.

#### **Article 20 — Consent to registration**

1. An international interest, a prospective international interest or an assignment or prospective assignment of an international interest may be registered, and any such registration amended or extended prior to its expiry, by either party with the consent in writing of the other.

2. The subordination of an international interest to another international interest may be registered by or with the consent in writing at any time of the person whose interest has been subordinated.
3. A registration may be discharged by or with the consent in writing of the party in whose favour it was made.
4. The acquisition of an international interest by legal or contractual subrogation may be registered by the subrogee.
5. A registrable non-consensual right or interest may be registered by the holder thereof.
6. A notice of a national interest may be registered by the holder thereof.

#### **Article 21 — Duration of registration**

Registration of an international interest remains effective until discharged or until expiry of the period specified in the registration.

#### **Article 22 — Searches**

1. Any person may, in the manner prescribed by the Protocol and regulations, make or request a search of the International Registry by electronic means concerning interests or prospective international interests registered therein.
2. Upon receipt of a request therefor, the Registrar, in the manner prescribed by the Protocol and regulations, shall issue a registry search certificate by electronic means with respect to any object:
  - (a) stating all registered information relating thereto, together with a statement indicating the date and time of registration of such information; or
  - (b) stating that there is no information in the International Registry relating thereto.
3. A search certificate issued under the preceding paragraph shall indicate that the creditor named in the registration information has acquired or intends to acquire an international interest in the object but shall not indicate whether what is registered is an international interest or a prospective international interest, even if this is ascertainable from the relevant registration information.

#### **Article 23 — List of declarations and declared non-consensual rights or interests**

The Registrar shall maintain a list of declarations, withdrawals of declaration and of the categories of nonconsensual right or interest communicated to the Registrar by the Depositary as having been declared by Contracting States in conformity with Articles 39 and 40 and the date of each such declaration or withdrawal of declaration. Such list shall be recorded and searchable in the name of the declaring State and shall be made available as provided in the Protocol and regulations to any person requesting it.

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#### **Article 24 — Evidentiary value of certificates**

A document in the form prescribed by the regulations which purports to be a certificate issued by the International Registry is prima facie proof:

- (a) that it has been so issued; and
- (b) of the facts recited in it, including the date and time of a registration.

#### **Article 25 — Discharge of registration**

1. Where the obligations secured by a registered security interest or the obligations giving rise to a registered non-consensual right or interest have been discharged, or where the conditions of transfer of title under a registered title reservation agreement have been fulfilled, the holder of such interest shall, without undue delay, procure the discharge of the registration after written demand by the debtor delivered to or received at its address stated in the registration.

2. Where a prospective international interest or a prospective assignment of an international interest has been registered, the intending creditor or intending assignee shall, without undue delay, procure the discharge of the registration after written demand by the intending debtor or assignor which is delivered to or received at its address stated in the registration before the intending creditor or assignee has given value or incurred a commitment to give value.

3. Where the obligations secured by a national interest specified in a registered notice of a national interest have been discharged, the holder of such interest shall, without undue delay, procure the discharge of the registration after written demand by the debtor delivered to or received at its address stated in the registration.

4. Where a registration ought not to have been made or is incorrect, the person in whose favour the registration was made shall, without undue delay, procure its discharge or amendment after written demand by the debtor delivered to or received at its address stated in the registration.

#### **Article 26 — Access to the international registration facilities**

No person shall be denied access to the registration and search facilities of the International Registry on any ground other than its failure to comply with the procedures prescribed by this Chapter.

## **Chapter VI**

### **Privileges and immunities of the Supervisory Authority and the Registrar**

#### **Article 27 — Legal personality; immunity**

1. The Supervisory Authority shall have international legal personality where not already possessing such personality.
2. The Supervisory Authority and its officers and employees shall enjoy such immunity from legal or administrative process as is specified in the Protocol.
3.
  - (a) The Supervisory Authority shall enjoy exemption from taxes and such other privileges as may be provided by agreement with the host State.
  - (b) For the purposes of this paragraph, “host State” means the State in which the Supervisory Authority is situated.
4. The assets, documents, data bases and archives of the International Registry shall be inviolable and immune from seizure or other legal or administrative process.
5. For the purposes of any claim against the Registrar under Article 28(1) or Article 44, the claimant shall be entitled to access to such information and documents as are necessary to enable the claimant to pursue its claim.
6. The Supervisory Authority may waive the inviolability and immunity conferred by paragraph 4.

## **Chapter VII**

### **Liability of the Registrar**

#### **Article 28 — Liability and financial assurances**

1. The Registrar shall be liable for compensatory damages for loss suffered by a person directly resulting from an error or omission of the Registrar and its officers and employees or from a malfunction of the international registration system except where the malfunction is caused by an event of an inevitable and irresistible nature, which could not be prevented by using the best practices in current use in the field of electronic registry design and operation, including those related to back-up and systems security and networking.
2. The Registrar shall not be liable under the preceding paragraph for factual inaccuracy of registration information received by the Registrar or transmitted by the Registrar in the form in which

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it received that information nor for acts or circumstances for which the Registrar and its officers and employees are not responsible and arising prior to receipt of registration information at the International Registry.

3. Compensation under paragraph 1 may be reduced to the extent that the person who suffered the damage caused or contributed to that damage.

4. The Registrar shall procure insurance or a financial guarantee covering the liability referred to in this Article to the extent determined by the Supervisory Authority, in accordance with the Protocol.

## **Chapter VIII**

### **Effects of an international interest as against third parties**

#### **Article 29 — Priority of competing interests**

1. A registered interest has priority over any other interest subsequently registered and over an unregistered interest.

2. The priority of the first-mentioned interest under the preceding paragraph applies:

- (a) even if the first-mentioned interest was acquired or registered with actual knowledge of the other interest; and
- (b) even as regards value given by the holder of the first-mentioned interest with such knowledge.

3. The buyer of an object acquires its interest in it:

- (a) subject to an interest registered at the time of its acquisition of that interest; and
- (b) free from an unregistered interest even if it has actual knowledge of such an interest.

4. The conditional buyer or lessee acquires its interest in or right over that object:

- (a) subject to an interest registered prior to the registration of the international interest held by its conditional seller or lessor; and
- (b) free from an interest not so registered at that time even if it has actual knowledge of that interest.

5. The priority of competing interests or rights under this Article may be varied by agreement between the holders of those interests, but an assignee of a subordinated interest is not bound by an agreement to subordinate that interest unless at the time of the assignment a subordination had been registered relating to that agreement.

6. Any priority given by this Article to an interest in an object extends to proceeds.
7. This Convention:
  - (a) does not affect the rights of a person in an item, other than an object, held prior to its installation on an object if under the applicable law those rights continue to exist after the installation; and
  - (b) does not prevent the creation of rights in an item, other than an object, which has previously been installed on an object where under the applicable law those rights are created.

#### **Article 30 — Effects of insolvency**

1. In insolvency proceedings against the debtor an international interest is effective if prior to the commencement of the insolvency proceedings that interest was registered in conformity with this Convention.
2. Nothing in this Article impairs the effectiveness of an international interest in the insolvency proceedings where that interest is effective under the applicable law.
3. Nothing in this Article affects:
  - (a) any rules of law applicable in insolvency proceedings relating to the avoidance of a transaction as a preference or a transfer in fraud of creditors; or
  - (b) any rules of procedure relating to the enforcement of rights to property which is under the control or supervision of the insolvency administrator.

### **Chapter IX**

#### **Assignments of associated rights and international interests; rights of subrogation**

#### **Article 31 — Effects of assignment**

1. Except as otherwise agreed by the parties, an assignment of associated rights made in conformity with Article 32 also transfers to the assignee:
  - (a) the related international interest; and
  - (b) all the interests and priorities of the assignor under this Convention.
2. Nothing in this Convention prevents a partial assignment of the assignor's associated rights. In the case of such a partial assignment the assignor and assignee may agree as to their respective rights

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concerning the related international interest assigned under the preceding paragraph but not so as adversely to affect the debtor without its consent.

3. Subject to paragraph 4, the applicable law shall determine the defences and rights of set-off available to the debtor against the assignee.

4. The debtor may at any time by agreement in writing waive all or any of the defences and rights of set-off referred to in the preceding paragraph other than defences arising from fraudulent acts on the part of the assignee.

5. In the case of an assignment by way of security, the assigned associated rights revert in the assignor, to the extent that they are still subsisting, when the obligations secured by the assignment have been discharged.

#### **Article 32 — Formal requirements of assignment**

1. An assignment of associated rights transfers the related international interest only if it:
  - (a) is in writing;
  - (b) enables the associated rights to be identified under the contract from which they arise; and
  - (c) in the case of an assignment by way of security, enables the obligations secured by the assignment to be determined in accordance with the Protocol but without the need to state a sum or maximum sum secured.
2. An assignment of an international interest created or provided for by a security agreement is not valid unless some or all related associated rights also are assigned.
3. This Convention does not apply to an assignment of associated rights which is not effective to transfer the related international interest.

#### **Article 33 — Debtor's duty to assignee**

1. To the extent that associated rights and the related international interest have been transferred in accordance with Articles 31 and 32, the debtor in relation to those rights and that interest is bound by the assignment and has a duty to make payment or give other performance to the assignee, if but only if:
  - (a) the debtor has been given notice of the assignment in writing by or with the authority of the assignor; and
  - (b) the notice identifies the associated rights.

2. Irrespective of any other ground on which payment or performance by the debtor discharges the latter from liability, payment or performance shall be effective for this purpose if made in accordance with the preceding paragraph.
3. Nothing in this Article shall affect the priority of competing assignments.

#### **Article 34 — Default remedies in respect of assignment by way of security**

In the event of default by the assignor under the assignment of associated rights and the related international interest made by way of security, Articles 8, 9 and 11 to 14 apply in the relations between the assignor and the assignee (and, in relation to associated rights, apply in so far as those provisions are capable of application to intangible property) as if references:

- (a) to the secured obligation and the security interest were references to the obligation secured by the assignment of the associated rights and the related international interest and the security interest created by that assignment;
- (b) to the chargee or creditor and chargor or debtor were references to the assignee and assignor;
- (c) to the holder of the international interest were references to the assignee; and
- (d) to the object were references to the assigned associated rights and the related international interest.

#### **Article 35 — Priority of competing assignments**

1. Where there are competing assignments of associated rights and at least one of the assignments includes the related international interest and is registered, the provisions of Article 29 apply as if the references to a registered interest were references to an assignment of the associated rights and the related registered interest and as if references to a registered or unregistered interest were references to a registered or unregistered assignment.
2. Article 30 applies to an assignment of associated rights as if the references to an international interest were references to an assignment of the associated rights and the related international interest.

#### **Article 36 — Assignee's priority with respect to associated rights**

1. The assignee of associated rights and the related international interest whose assignment has been registered only has priority under Article 35(1) over another assignee of the associated rights:
  - (a) if the contract under which the associated rights arise states that they are secured by or associated with the object; and
  - (b) to the extent that the associated rights are related to an object.

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2. For the purposes of sub-paragraph (b) of the preceding paragraph, associated rights are related to an object only to the extent that they consist of rights to payment or performance that relate to:

- (a) a sum advanced and utilised for the purchase of the object;
- (b) a sum advanced and utilised for the purchase of another object in which the assignor held another international interest if the assignor transferred that interest to the assignee and the assignment has been registered;
- (c) the price payable for the object;
- (d) the rentals payable in respect of the object; or
- (e) other obligations arising from a transaction referred to in any of the preceding subparagraphs.

3. In all other cases, the priority of the competing assignments of the associated rights shall be determined by the applicable law.

#### **Article 37 — Effects of assignor's insolvency**

The provisions of Article 30 apply to insolvency proceedings against the assignor as if references to the debtor were references to the assignor.

#### **Article 38 — Subrogation**

1. Subject to paragraph 2, nothing in this Convention affects the acquisition of associated rights and the related international interest by legal or contractual subrogation under the applicable law.

2. The priority between any interest within the preceding paragraph and a competing interest may be varied by agreement in writing between the holders of the respective interests but an assignee of a subordinated interest is not bound by an agreement to subordinate that interest unless at the time of the assignment a subordination had been registered relating to that agreement.

### **Chapter X**

#### **Rights or interests subject to declarations by Contracting States**

##### **Article 39 — Rights having priority without registration**

1. A Contracting State may at any time, in a declaration deposited with the Depositary of the Protocol declare, generally or specifically:

- (a) those categories of non-consensual right or interest (other than a right or interest to which Article 40 applies) which under that State's law have priority over an interest in an object equivalent to that of the holder of a registered international interest and which shall have priority over a registered international interest, whether in or outside insolvency proceedings; and
  - (b) that nothing in this Convention shall affect the right of a State or State entity, intergovernmental organisation or other private provider of public services to arrest or detain an object under the laws of that State for payment of amounts owed to such entity, organisation or provider directly relating to those services in respect of that object or another object.
2. A declaration made under the preceding paragraph may be expressed to cover categories that are created after the deposit of that declaration.
3. A non-consensual right or interest has priority over an international interest if and only if the former is of a category covered by a declaration deposited prior to the registration of the international interest.
4. Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, a Contracting State may, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval of, or accession to the Protocol, declare that a right or interest of a category covered by a declaration made under sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 1 shall have priority over an international interest registered prior to the date of such ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

#### **Article 40 — Registrable non-consensual rights or interests**

A Contracting State may at any time in a declaration deposited with the Depositary of the Protocol list the categories of non-consensual right or interest which shall be registrable under this Convention as regards any category of object as if the right or interest were an international interest and shall be regulated accordingly. Such a declaration may be modified from time to time.

### **Chapter XI**

#### **Application of the Convention to sales**

##### **Article 41 — Sale and prospective sale**

This Convention shall apply to the sale or prospective sale of an object as provided for in the Protocol with any modifications therein.

## **Chapter XII**

### **Jurisdiction**

#### **Article 42 — Choice of forum**

1. Subject to Articles 43 and 44, the courts of a Contracting State chosen by the parties to a transaction have jurisdiction in respect of any claim brought under this Convention, whether or not the chosen forum has a connection with the parties or the transaction. Such jurisdiction shall be exclusive unless otherwise agreed between the parties.
2. Any such agreement shall be in writing or otherwise concluded in accordance with the formal requirements of the law of the chosen forum.

#### **Article 43 — Jurisdiction under Article 13**

1. The courts of a Contracting State chosen by the parties and the courts of the Contracting State on the territory of which the object is situated have jurisdiction to grant relief under Article 13(1)(a), (b), (c) and Article 13(4) in respect of that object.
2. Jurisdiction to grant relief under Article 13(1)(d) or other interim relief by virtue of Article 13(4) may be exercised either:
  - (a) by the courts chosen by the parties; or
  - (b) by the courts of a Contracting State on the territory of which the debtor is situated, being relief which, by the terms of the order granting it, is enforceable only in the territory of that Contracting State.
3. A court has jurisdiction under the preceding paragraphs even if the final determination of the claim referred to in Article 13(1) will or may take place in a court of another Contracting State or by arbitration.

#### **Article 44 — Jurisdiction to make orders against the Registrar**

1. The courts of the place in which the Registrar has its centre of administration shall have exclusive jurisdiction to award damages or make orders against the Registrar.
2. Where a person fails to respond to a demand made under Article 25 and that person has ceased to exist or cannot be found for the purpose of enabling an order to be made against it requiring it to procure discharge of the registration, the courts referred to in the preceding paragraph shall have exclusive jurisdiction, on the application of the debtor or intending debtor, to make an order directed to the Registrar requiring the Registrar to discharge the registration.

3. Where a person fails to comply with an order of a court having jurisdiction under this Convention or, in the case of a national interest, an order of a court of competent jurisdiction requiring that person to procure the amendment or discharge of a registration, the courts referred to in paragraph 1 may direct the Registrar to take such steps as will give effect to that order.

4. Except as otherwise provided by the preceding paragraphs, no court may make orders or give judgments or rulings against or purporting to bind the Registrar.

#### **Article 45 — Jurisdiction in respect of insolvency proceedings**

The provisions of this Chapter are not applicable to insolvency proceedings.

### **Chapter XIII**

#### **Relationship with other Conventions**

##### **Article 45 bis — Relationship with the *United Nations Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade***

This Convention shall prevail over the *United Nations Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade*, opened for signature in New York on 12 December 2001, as it relates to the assignment of receivables which are associated rights related to international interests in aircraft objects, railway rolling stock and space assets.

##### **Article 46 — Relationship with the *UNIDROIT Convention on International Financial Leasing***

The Protocol may determine the relationship between this Convention and the *UNIDROIT Convention on International Financial Leasing*, signed at Ottawa on 28 May 1988.

### **Chapter XIV**

#### **Final provisions**

##### **Article 47 — Signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession**

1. This Convention shall be open for signature in Cape Town on 16 November 2001 by States participating in the Diplomatic Conference to Adopt a Mobile Equipment Convention and an Aircraft Protocol held at Cape Town from 29 October to 16 November 2001. After 16 November 2001, the Convention shall be open to all States for signature at the Headquarters of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) in Rome until it enters into force in accordance with Article

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2. This Convention shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by States which have signed it.
3. Any State which does not sign this Convention may accede to it at any time.
4. Ratification, acceptance, approval or accession is effected by the deposit of a formal instrument to that effect with the Depositary.

#### **Article 48 — Regional Economic Integration Organisations**

1. A Regional Economic Integration Organisation which is constituted by sovereign States and has competence over certain matters governed by this Convention may similarly sign, accept, approve or accede to this Convention. The Regional Economic Integration Organisation shall in that case have the rights and obligations of a Contracting State, to the extent that that Organisation has competence over matters governed by this Convention. Where the number of Contracting States is relevant in this Convention, the Regional Economic Integration Organisation shall not count as a Contracting State in addition to its Member States which are Contracting States.
2. The Regional Economic Integration Organisation shall, at the time of signature, acceptance, approval or accession, make a declaration to the Depositary specifying the matters governed by this Convention in respect of which competence has been transferred to that Organisation by its Member States. The Regional Economic Integration Organisation shall promptly notify the Depositary of any changes to the distribution of competence, including new transfers of competence, specified in the declaration under this paragraph.
3. Any reference to a “Contracting State” or “Contracting States” or “State Party” or “States Parties” in this Convention applies equally to a Regional Economic Integration Organisation where the context so requires.

#### **Article 49 — Entry into force**

1. This Convention enters into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of three months after the date of the deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession but only as regards a category of objects to which a Protocol applies:
  - (a) as from the time of entry into force of that Protocol;
  - (b) subject to the terms of that Protocol; and
  - (c) as between States Parties to this Convention and that Protocol.
2. For other States this Convention enters into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of three months after the date of the deposit of their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession but only as regards a category of objects to which a Protocol applies and subject, in relation to such Protocol, to the requirements of sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of the preceding paragraph.

#### **Article 50 — Internal transactions**

1. A Contracting State may, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval of, or accession to the Protocol, declare that this Convention shall not apply to a transaction which is an internal transaction in relation to that State with regard to all types of objects or some of them.
2. Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, the provisions of Articles 8(4), 9(1), 16, Chapter V, Article 29, and any provisions of this Convention relating to registered interests shall apply to an internal transaction.
3. Where notice of a national interest has been registered in the International Registry, the priority of the holder of that interest under Article 29 shall not be affected by the fact that such interest has become vested in another person by assignment or subrogation under the applicable law.

#### **Article 51 — Future Protocols**

1. The Depositary may create working groups, in co-operation with such relevant non-governmental organisations as the Depositary considers appropriate, to assess the feasibility of extending the application of this Convention, through one or more Protocols, to objects of any category of high-value mobile equipment, other than a category referred to in Article 2(3), each member of which is uniquely identifiable, and associated rights relating to such objects.
2. The Depositary shall communicate the text of any preliminary draft Protocol relating to a category of objects prepared by such a working group to all States Parties to this Convention, all member States of the Depositary, member States of the United Nations which are not members of the Depositary and the relevant intergovernmental organisations, and shall invite such States and organisations to participate in intergovernmental negotiations for the completion of a draft Protocol on the basis of such a preliminary draft Protocol.
3. The Depositary shall also communicate the text of any preliminary draft Protocol prepared by such a working group to such relevant non-governmental organisations as the Depositary considers appropriate. Such non-governmental organisations shall be invited promptly to submit comments on the text of the preliminary draft Protocol to the Depositary and to participate as observers in the preparation of a draft Protocol.
4. When the competent bodies of the Depositary adjudge such a draft Protocol ripe for adoption, the Depositary shall convene a diplomatic conference for its adoption.
5. Once such a Protocol has been adopted, subject to paragraph 6, this Convention shall apply to the category of objects covered thereby.
6. Article 45 *bis* of this Convention applies to such a Protocol only if specifically provided for in that Protocol.

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#### **Article 52 — Territorial units**

1. If a Contracting State has territorial units in which different systems of law are applicable in relation to the matters dealt with in this Convention, it may, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, declare that this Convention is to extend to all its territorial units or only to one or more of them and may modify its declaration by submitting another declaration at any time.
2. Any such declaration shall state expressly the territorial units to which this Convention applies.
3. If a Contracting State has not made any declaration under paragraph 1, this Convention shall apply to all territorial units of that State.
4. Where a Contracting State extends this Convention to one or more of its territorial units, declarations permitted under this Convention may be made in respect of each such territorial unit, and the declarations made in respect of one territorial unit may be different from those made in respect of another territorial unit.
5. If by virtue of a declaration under paragraph 1, this Convention extends to one or more territorial units of a Contracting State:
  - (a) the debtor is considered to be situated in a Contracting State only if it is incorporated or formed under a law in force in a territorial unit to which this Convention applies or if it has its registered office or statutory seat, centre of administration, place of business or habitual residence in a territorial unit to which this Convention applies;
  - (b) any reference to the location of the object in a Contracting State refers to the location of the object in a territorial unit to which this Convention applies; and
  - (c) any reference to the administrative authorities in that Contracting State shall be construed as referring to the administrative authorities having jurisdiction in a territorial unit to which this Convention applies.

#### **Article 53 — Determination of courts**

A Contracting State may, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval of, or accession to the Protocol, declare the relevant “court” or “courts” for the purposes of Article 1 and Chapter XII of this Convention.

#### **Article 54 — Declarations regarding remedies**

1. A Contracting State may, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval of, or accession to the Protocol, declare that while the charged object is situated within, or controlled from its territory the charge shall not grant a lease of the object in that territory.
2. A Contracting State shall, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval of, or accession to the Protocol, declare whether or not any remedy available to the creditor under any provision of this

Convention which is not there expressed to require application to the court may be exercised only with leave of the court.

#### **Article 55 — Declarations regarding relief pending final determination**

A Contracting State may, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval of, or accession to the Protocol, declare that it will not apply the provisions of Article 13 or Article 43, or both, wholly or in part. The declaration shall specify under which conditions the relevant Article will be applied, in case it will be applied partly, or otherwise which other forms of interim relief will be applied.

#### **Article 56 — Reservations and declarations**

1. No reservations may be made to this Convention but declarations authorised by Articles 39, 40, 50, 52, 53, 54, 55, 57, 58 and 60 may be made in accordance with these provisions.
2. Any declaration or subsequent declaration or any withdrawal of a declaration made under this Convention shall be notified in writing to the Depositary.

#### **Article 57 — Subsequent declarations**

1. A State Party may make a subsequent declaration, other than a declaration authorised under Article 60, at any time after the date on which this Convention has entered into force for it, by notifying the Depositary to that effect.
2. Any such subsequent declaration shall take effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of receipt of the notification by the Depositary. Where a longer period for that declaration to take effect is specified in the notification, it shall take effect upon the expiration of such longer period after receipt of the notification by the Depositary.
3. Notwithstanding the previous paragraphs, this Convention shall continue to apply, as if no such subsequent declarations had been made, in respect of all rights and interests arising prior to the effective date of any such subsequent declaration.

#### **Article 58 — Withdrawal of declarations**

1. Any State Party having made a declaration under this Convention, other than a declaration authorised under Article 60, may withdraw it at any time by notifying the Depositary. Such withdrawal is to take effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of receipt of the notification by the Depositary.
2. Notwithstanding the previous paragraph, this Convention shall continue to apply, as if no such withdrawal of declaration had been made, in respect of all rights and interests arising prior to the effective date of any such withdrawal.

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#### **Article 59 — Denunciations**

1. Any State Party may denounce this Convention by notification in writing to 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 on which notification is received by the Depositary.
3. Notwithstanding the previous paragraphs, this Convention 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 any such denunciation.

#### **Article 60 — Transitional provisions**

1. Unless otherwise declared by a Contracting State at any time, the Convention does not apply to a pre-existing right or interest, which retains the priority it enjoyed under the applicable law before the effective date of this Convention.
2. For the purposes of Article 1(v) and of determining priority under this Convention:
  - (a) “effective date of this Convention” means in relation to a debtor the time when this Convention enters into force or the time when the State in which the debtor is situated becomes a Contracting State, whichever is the later; and
  - (b) the debtor is situated in a State where it has its centre of administration or, if it has no centre of administration, its place of business or, if it has more than one place of business, its principal place of business or, if it has no place of business, its habitual residence.
3. A Contracting State may in its declaration under paragraph 1 specify a date, not earlier than three years after the date on which the declaration becomes effective, when this Convention and the Protocol will become applicable, for the purpose of determining priority, including the protection of any existing priority, to pre-existing rights or interests arising under an agreement made at a time when the debtor was situated in a State referred to in sub-paragraph (b) of the preceding paragraph but only to the extent and in the manner specified in its declaration.

#### **Article 61 — Review Conferences, amendments and related matters**

1. The Depositary shall prepare reports yearly or at such other time as the circumstances may require for the States Parties as to the manner in which the international regimen established in this Convention has operated in practice. In preparing such reports, the Depositary shall take into account the reports of the Supervisory Authority concerning the functioning of the international registration system.
2. At the request of not less than twenty-five per cent of the States Parties, Review Conferences of States Parties shall be convened from time to time by the Depositary, in consultation with the Supervisory Authority, to consider:

- (a) the practical operation of this Convention and its effectiveness in facilitating the asset-based financing and leasing of the objects covered by its terms;
- (b) the judicial interpretation given to, and the application made of the terms of this Convention and the regulations;
- (c) the functioning of the international registration system, the performance of the Registrar and its oversight by the Supervisory Authority, taking into account the reports of the Supervisory Authority; and
- (d) whether any modifications to this Convention or the arrangements relating to the International Registry are desirable.

3. Subject to paragraph 4, any amendment to this Convention shall be approved by at least a two-thirds majority of States Parties participating in the Conference referred to in the preceding paragraph and shall then enter into force in respect of States which have ratified, accepted or approved such amendment when ratified, accepted, or approved by three States in accordance with the provisions of Article 49 relating to its entry into force.

4. Where the proposed amendment to this Convention is intended to apply to more than one category of equipment, such amendment shall also be approved by at least a two-thirds majority of States Parties to each Protocol that are participating in the Conference referred to in paragraph 2.

#### **Article 62 — Depositary and its functions**

1. Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be deposited with the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT), which is hereby designated the Depositary.

2. The Depositary shall:

- (a) inform all Contracting States of:
  - (i) each new signature or deposit of an instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, together with the date thereof;
  - (ii) the date of entry into force of this Convention;
  - (iii) each declaration made in accordance with this Convention, together with the date thereof;
  - (iv) the withdrawal or amendment of any declaration, together with the date thereof; and
  - (v) the notification of any denunciation of this Convention together with the date thereof and the date on which it takes effect;
- (b) transmit certified true copies of this Convention to all Contracting States;

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- (c) provide the Supervisory Authority and the Registrar with a copy of each instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, together with the date of deposit thereof, of each declaration or withdrawal or amendment of a declaration and of each notification of denunciation, together with the date of notification thereof, so that the information contained therein is easily and fully available; and
- (d) perform such other functions customary for depositaries.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, having been duly authorised, have signed this Convention.

DONE at Cape Town, this sixteenth day of November, two thousand and one, in a single original in the English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish languages, all texts being equally authentic, such authenticity to take effect upon verification by the Joint Secretariat of the Conference under the authority of the President of the Conference within ninety days hereof as to the conformity of the texts with one another.

SCHEDULE 2

Regulation 4(5)

TEXT OF PROTOCOL ON AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT

**PROTOCOL**

**TO THE CONVENTION  
ON INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS IN MOBILE EQUIPMENT ON  
MATTERS SPECIFIC TO AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT**

THE STATES PARTIES TO THIS PROTOCOL,

CONSIDERING it necessary to implement the *Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment* (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”) 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,

MINDFUL of the principles and objectives of the *Convention on International Civil Aviation*, signed at Chicago on 7 December 1944,

HAVE AGREED upon the following provisions relating to aircraft equipment:

**Chapter I**

Sphere of application and general provisions

**Article I — Defined terms**

1. In this Protocol, except where the context otherwise requires, terms used in it have the meanings set out in the Convention.
2. In this Protocol the following terms are employed with the meanings set out below:
  - (a) “aircraft” means aircraft as defined for the purposes of the Chicago Convention which are either airframes with aircraft engines installed thereon or helicopters;
  - (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:
    - (i) in the case of jet propulsion aircraft engines, have at least 1750 lb of thrust or its equivalent; and
    - (ii) in the case of turbine-powered or piston-powered aircraft engines, have at least 550 rated take-off shaft horsepower or its equivalent,

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together with all modules and other installed, incorporated or attached accessories, parts and equipment and all data, manuals and records relating thereto;

- (c) "aircraft objects" means airframes, aircraft engines and helicopters;
- (d) "aircraft register" means a register maintained by a State or a common mark registering authority for the purposes of the Chicago Convention;
- (e) "airframes" means airframes (other than those used in military, customs or police services) that, when appropriate aircraft engines are installed thereon, are type certified by the competent aviation authority to transport:

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

- (ii) goods in excess of 2750 kilograms,

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

- (f) "authorised party" means the party referred to in Article XIII(3);
- (g) "Chicago Convention" means the *Convention on International Civil Aviation*, signed at Chicago on 7 December 1944, as amended, and its Annexes;
- (h) "common mark registering authority" means the authority maintaining a register in accordance with Article 77 of the Chicago Convention as implemented by the Resolution adopted on 14 December 1967 by the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization on nationality and registration of aircraft operated by international operating agencies;
- (i) "de-registration of the aircraft" means deletion or removal of the registration of the aircraft from its aircraft register in accordance with the Chicago Convention;
- (j) "guarantee contract" means a contract entered into by a person as guarantor;
- (k) "guarantor" means a person who, for the purpose of assuring performance of any obligations in favour of a creditor 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;
- (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:
  - (i) at least five (5) persons including crew; or
  - (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;

- (m) “insolvency-related event” means:
  - (i) the commencement of the insolvency proceedings; or
  - (ii) the declared intention to suspend or actual suspension of payments by the debtor where the creditor’s right to institute insolvency proceedings against the debtor or to exercise remedies under the Convention is prevented or suspended by law or State action;
- (n) “primary insolvency jurisdiction” means the Contracting State in which the centre of the debtor’s main interests is situated, which for this purpose shall be deemed to be the place of the debtor’s statutory seat or, if there is none, the place where the debtor is incorporated or formed, unless proved otherwise;
- (o) “registry authority” means the national authority or the common mark registering authority, maintaining an aircraft register in a Contracting State and responsible for the registration and de-registration of an aircraft in accordance with the Chicago Convention; and
- (p) “State of registry” means, in respect of an aircraft, the State on the national register of which an aircraft is entered or the State of location of the common mark registering authority maintaining the aircraft register.

#### **Article II — Application of Convention as regards aircraft objects**

1. The Convention shall apply in relation to aircraft objects as provided by the terms of this Protocol.
2. The Convention and this Protocol shall be known as the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment as applied to aircraft objects.

#### **Article III — Application of Convention to sales**

The following provisions of the Convention apply as if references to an agreement creating or providing for an international interest were references to a contract of sale and as if references to an international interest, a prospective international interest, the debtor and the creditor were references to a sale, a prospective sale, the seller and the buyer respectively:

- Articles 3 and 4;
- Article 16(1)(a);
- Article 19(4);
- Article 20(1) (as regards registration of a contract of sale or a prospective sale);
- Article 25(2) (as regards a prospective sale); and
- Article 30.

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In addition, the general provisions of Article 1, Article 5, Chapters IV to VII, Article 29 (other than Article 29(3) which is replaced by Article XIV(1) and (2)), Chapter X, Chapter XII (other than Article 43), Chapter XIII and Chapter XIV (other than Article 60) shall apply to contracts of sale and prospective sales.

#### **Article IV — Sphere of application**

1. Without prejudice to Article 3(1) of the Convention, the Convention shall also apply in relation to a helicopter, or to an airframe pertaining to an aircraft, registered in an aircraft register of a Contracting State which is the State of registry, and where such registration is made pursuant to an agreement for registration of the aircraft it is deemed to have been effected at the time of the agreement.

2. For the purposes of the definition of “internal transaction” in Article 1 of the Convention:

- (a) an airframe is located in the State of registry of the aircraft of which it is a part;
- (b) an aircraft engine is located in the State of registry of the aircraft on which it is installed or, if it is not installed on an aircraft, where it is physically located; and
- (c) a helicopter is located in its State of registry,

at the time of the conclusion of the agreement creating or providing for the interest.

3. The parties may, by agreement in writing, exclude the application of Article XI and, in their relations with each other, derogate from or vary the effect of any of the provisions of this Protocol except Article IX (2)-(4).

#### **Article V — Formalities, effects and registration of contracts 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 seller has power to dispose; and
- (c) enables the aircraft object to be identified in conformity with this Protocol.

2. A contract of sale transfers the interest of the seller in the aircraft object to the buyer according to its terms.

3. Registration of a contract of sale remains effective indefinitely. Registration of a prospective sale remains effective unless discharged or until expiry of the period, if any, specified in the registration.

#### **Article VI — Representative capacities**

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

#### **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. This Article applies only where a Contracting State has made a declaration pursuant to Article XXX(1).
2. 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 contractual rights and obligations, wholly or in part.
3. Unless otherwise agreed, the reference in the preceding paragraph to the law chosen by the parties is to the domestic rules of law of the designated State or, where that State comprises several territorial units, to the domestic law of the designated territorial unit.

### **Chapter II**

#### **Default remedies, priorities and assignments**

##### **Article IX — Modification of default remedies provisions**

1. In addition to the remedies specified in Chapter III of the Convention, the creditor may, to the extent that the debtor has at any time so agreed and in the circumstances specified in that Chapter:
  - (a) procure the de-registration of the aircraft; and
  - (b) procure the export and physical transfer of the aircraft object from the territory in which it is situated.
2. The creditor shall 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 creditor.
3. Article 8(3) of the Convention shall not apply to aircraft objects. Any remedy given by the Convention in relation to an aircraft object shall be exercised in a commercially reasonable manner. A

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remedy shall be deemed to be exercised in a commercially reasonable manner where it is exercised in conformity with a provision of the agreement except where such a provision is manifestly unreasonable.

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

5. The registry authority in a Contracting State shall, subject to any applicable safety laws and regulations, honour a request for de-registration and export if:

- (a) the request is properly submitted by the authorised party under a recorded irrevocable deregistration and export request authorisation; and
- (b) the authorised party certifies to the registry authority, if required by that authority, that all registered interests ranking in priority to that of the creditor in whose favour the authorisation has been issued have been discharged or that the holders of such interests have consented to the de-registration and export.

6. A chargee proposing to procure the de-registration and export of an aircraft under paragraph 1 otherwise than pursuant to a court order shall give reasonable prior notice in writing of the proposed deregistration and export to:

- (a) interested persons specified in Article 1(m)(i) and (ii) of the Convention; and
- (b) interested persons specified in Article 1(m)(iii) of the Convention who have given notice of their rights to the chargee within a reasonable time prior to the de-registration and export.

**Article X — Modification of provisions  
regarding relief pending final determination**

1. This Article applies only where a Contracting State has made a declaration under Article XXX(2) and to the extent stated in such declaration.

2. For the purposes of Article 13(1) of the Convention, "speedy" in the context of obtaining relief means within such number of working days from the date of filing of the application for relief as is specified in a declaration made by the Contracting State in which the application is made.

3. Article 13(1) of the Convention applies with the following being added immediately after subparagraph (d):

- "(e) if at any time the debtor and the creditor specifically agree, sale and application of proceeds therefrom",

and Article 43(2) applies with the insertion after the words "Article 13(1)(d)" of the words "and (e)".

4. Ownership or any other interest of the debtor passing on a sale under the preceding paragraph is free from any other interest over which the creditor's international interest has priority under the provisions of Article 29 of the Convention.
5. The creditor and the debtor or any other interested person may agree in writing to exclude the application of Article 13(2) of the Convention.
6. With regard to the remedies in Article IX(1):
  - (a) they shall be made available by the registry authority and other administrative authorities, as applicable, in a Contracting State no later than five working days after the creditor notifies such authorities that the relief specified in Article IX(1) is granted or, in the case of relief granted by a foreign court, recognised by a court of that Contracting State, and that the creditor is entitled to procure those remedies in accordance with the Convention; and
  - (b) the applicable authorities shall expeditiously co-operate with and assist the creditor in the exercise of such remedies in conformity with the applicable aviation safety laws and regulations.
7. Paragraphs 2 and 6 shall not affect any applicable aviation safety laws and regulations.

#### **Article XI — Remedies on insolvency**

1. This Article applies only where a Contracting State that is the primary insolvency jurisdiction has made a declaration pursuant to Article XXX(3).

##### *Alternative A*

2. Upon the occurrence of an insolvency-related event, the insolvency administrator or the debtor, as applicable, shall, subject to paragraph 7, give possession of the aircraft object to the creditor no later than the earlier of:
  - (a) the end of the waiting period; and
  - (b) the date on which the creditor would be entitled to possession of the aircraft object if this Article did not apply.
3. For the purposes of this Article, the "waiting period" shall be the period specified in a declaration of the Contracting State which is the primary insolvency jurisdiction.
4. References in this Article to the "insolvency administrator" shall be to that person in its official, not in its personal, capacity.
5. Unless and until the creditor is given the opportunity to take possession under paragraph 2:
  - (a) the insolvency administrator or the debtor, as applicable, shall preserve the aircraft object and maintain it and its value in accordance with the agreement; and

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- (b) the creditor shall be entitled to apply for any other forms of interim relief available under the applicable law.
6. Sub-paragraph (a) of the preceding paragraph shall not preclude the use of the aircraft object under arrangements designed to preserve the aircraft object and maintain it and its value.
7. The insolvency administrator or the debtor, as applicable, may retain possession of the aircraft object where, by the time specified in paragraph 2, it has cured all defaults other than a default constituted by the opening of insolvency proceedings and has agreed to perform all future obligations under the agreement. A second waiting period shall not apply in respect of a default in the performance of such future obligations.
8. With regard to the remedies in Article IX(1):
- (a) they shall be made available by the registry authority and the administrative authorities in a Contracting State, as applicable, no later than five working days after the date on which the creditor notifies such authorities that it is entitled to procure those remedies in accordance with the Convention; and
  - (b) the applicable authorities shall expeditiously co-operate with and assist the creditor in the exercise of such remedies in conformity with the applicable aviation safety laws and regulations.
9. No exercise of remedies permitted by the Convention or this Protocol may be prevented or delayed after the date specified in paragraph 2.
10. No obligations of the debtor under the agreement may be modified without the consent of the creditor.
11. Nothing in the preceding paragraph shall be construed to affect the authority, if any, of the insolvency administrator under the applicable law to terminate the agreement.
12. No rights or interests, except for non-consensual rights or interests of a category covered by a declaration pursuant to Article 39(1), shall have priority in insolvency proceedings over registered interests.
13. The Convention as modified by Article IX of this Protocol shall apply to the exercise of any remedies under this Article.

*Alternative B*

2. Upon the occurrence of an insolvency-related event, the insolvency administrator or the debtor, as applicable, upon the request of the creditor, shall give notice to the creditor within the time specified in a declaration of a Contracting State pursuant to Article XXX(3) whether it will:
- (a) cure all defaults other than a default constituted by the opening of insolvency proceedings and agree to perform all future obligations, under the agreement and related transaction documents; or

- (b) give the creditor the opportunity to take possession of the aircraft object, in accordance with the applicable law.
- 3. The applicable law referred to in sub-paragraph (b) of the preceding paragraph may permit the court to require the taking of any additional step or the provision of any additional guarantee.
- 4. The creditor shall provide evidence of its claims and proof that its international interest has been registered.
- 5. If the insolvency administrator or the debtor, as applicable, does not give notice in conformity with paragraph 2, or when the insolvency administrator or the debtor has declared that it will give the creditor the opportunity to take possession of the aircraft object but fails to do so, the court may permit the creditor to take possession of the aircraft object upon such terms as the court may order and may require the taking of any additional step or the provision of any additional guarantee.
- 6. The aircraft object shall not be sold pending a decision by a court regarding the claim and the international interest.

#### **Article XII — Insolvency assistance**

- 1. This Article applies only where a Contracting State has made a declaration pursuant to Article XXX(1).
- 2. 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 and foreign insolvency administrators in carrying out the provisions of Article XI.

#### **Article XIII — De-registration and export request authorisation**

- 1. This Article applies only where a Contracting State has made a declaration pursuant to Article XXX(1).
- 2. Where the debtor 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 registry authority, that authorisation shall be so recorded.
- 3. 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 applicable aviation safety laws and regulations. Such authorisation may not be revoked by the debtor without the consent in writing of the authorised party. The registry authority shall remove an authorisation from the registry at the request of the authorised party.
- 4. The 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.

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#### **Article XIV — Modification of priority provisions**

1. A buyer of an aircraft object under a registered sale acquires its interest in that object free from an interest subsequently registered and from an unregistered interest, even if the buyer has actual knowledge of the unregistered interest.
2. A buyer of an aircraft object acquires its interest in that object subject to an interest registered at the time of its acquisition.
3. Ownership of or another right or interest in an aircraft engine shall not be affected by its installation on or removal from an aircraft.
4. Article 29(7) of the Convention applies to an item, other than an object, installed on an airframe, aircraft engine or helicopter.

#### **Article XV — Modification of assignment provisions**

Article 33(1) of the Convention applies as if the following were added immediately after sub-paragraph (b):

“and (c) the debtor has consented in writing, whether or not the consent is given in advance of the assignment or identifies the assignee.”

#### **Article XVI — Debtor provisions**

1. In the absence of a default within the meaning of Article 11 of the Convention, the debtor shall be entitled to the quiet possession and use of the object in accordance with the agreement as against:
  - (a) its creditor and the holder of any interest from which the debtor takes free pursuant to Article 29(4) of the Convention or, in the capacity of buyer, Article XIV(1) of this Protocol, unless and to the extent that the debtor has otherwise agreed; and
  - (b) the holder of any interest to which the debtor’s right or interest is subject pursuant to Article 29(4) of the Convention or, in the capacity of buyer, Article XIV(2) of this Protocol, but only to the extent, if any, that such holder has agreed.
2. Nothing in the Convention or this Protocol affects the liability of a creditor for any breach of the agreement under the applicable law in so far as that agreement relates to an aircraft object.

## **Chapter III**

### **Registry provisions relating to international interests in aircraft objects**

#### **Article XVII — The Supervisory Authority and the Registrar**

1. The Supervisory Authority shall be the international entity designated by a Resolution adopted by the Diplomatic Conference to Adopt a Mobile Equipment Convention and an Aircraft Protocol.
2. Where the international entity referred to in the preceding paragraph is not able and willing to act as Supervisory Authority, a Conference of Signatory and Contracting States shall be convened to designate another Supervisory Authority.
3. The Supervisory Authority and its officers and employees shall enjoy such immunity from legal and administrative process as is provided under the rules applicable to them as an international entity or otherwise.
4. The Supervisory Authority may establish a commission of experts, from among persons nominated by Signatory and Contracting States and having the necessary qualifications and experience, and entrust it with the task of assisting the Supervisory Authority in the discharge of its functions.
5. The first 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 reappointed at regular five-yearly intervals by the Supervisory Authority.

#### **Article XVIII — First regulations**

The first regulations shall be made by the Supervisory Authority so as to take effect upon the entry into force of this Protocol.

#### **Article XIX — Designated entry points**

1. Subject to paragraph 2, a Contracting State may at any time designate an entity or entities in its territory as the entry point or entry points through which there shall or may be transmitted to the International Registry information required for registration other than registration of a notice of a national interest or a right or interest under Article 40 in either case arising under the laws of another State.
2. A designation made under the preceding paragraph may permit, but not compel, use of a designated entry point or entry points for information required for registrations in respect of aircraft engines.

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#### **Article XX — Additional modifications to Registry provisions**

1. For the purposes of Article 19(6) of the Convention, the search criteria for an aircraft object shall be the name of its manufacturer, its manufacturer's serial number and its model designation, 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 or the person in whose favour a prospective sale has been registered shall take such steps as are within its power to procure the discharge of the registration no later than five working days after the receipt of the demand described in such paragraph.
3. The fees referred to in Article 17(2)(h) of the Convention shall be determined so as to recover the reasonable costs of establishing, operating and regulating the International Registry and the reasonable costs of the Supervisory Authority associated with the performance of the functions, exercise of the powers, and discharge of the duties contemplated by Article 17(2) of the Convention.
4. The centralised functions of the International Registry shall be operated and administered by the Registrar on a twenty-four hour basis. The various entry points shall be operated at least during working hours in their respective territories.
5. The amount of the insurance or financial guarantee referred to in Article 28(4) of the Convention shall, in respect of each event, not be less than the maximum value of an aircraft object as determined by the Supervisory Authority.
6. Nothing in the Convention shall preclude the Registrar from procuring insurance or a financial guarantee covering events for which the Registrar is not liable under Article 28 of the Convention.

### **Chapter IV**

#### **Jurisdiction**

#### **Article XXI — Modification of jurisdiction provisions**

For the purposes of Article 43 of the Convention and subject to Article 42 of the Convention, a court of a Contracting State also has jurisdiction where the object is a helicopter, or an airframe pertaining to an aircraft, for which that State is the State of registry.

#### **Article XXII — Waivers of sovereign immunity**

1. Subject to paragraph 2, a waiver of sovereign immunity from jurisdiction of the courts specified in Article 42 or Article 43 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 writing and contain a description of the aircraft object.

### **Chapter V**

#### **Relationship with other conventions**

##### **Article XXIII — Relationship with the *Convention on the International Recognition of Rights in Aircraft***

The Convention shall, for a Contracting State that is a party to the *Convention on the International Recognition of Rights in Aircraft*, signed at Geneva on 19 June 1948, supersede that Convention as it relates to aircraft, as defined in this Protocol, and to aircraft objects. However, with respect to rights or interests not covered or affected by the present Convention, the Geneva Convention shall not be superseded.

##### **Article XXIV — Relationship with the *Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to the Precautionary Attachment of Aircraft***

1. The Convention shall, for a Contracting State that is a Party to the *Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to the Precautionary Attachment of Aircraft*, signed at Rome on 29 May 1933, supersede that Convention as it relates to aircraft, as defined in this Protocol.
2. A Contracting State Party to the above Convention may declare, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval of, or accession to this Protocol, that it will not apply this Article.

##### **Article XXV — Relationship with the *UNIDROIT Convention on International Financial Leasing***

The Convention shall supersede the *UNIDROIT Convention on International Financial Leasing*, signed at Ottawa on 28 May 1988, as it relates to aircraft objects.

## Chapter VI

### Final provisions

#### **Article XXVI — Signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession**

1. This Protocol shall be open for signature in Cape Town on 16 November 2001 by States participating in the Diplomatic Conference to Adopt a Mobile Equipment Convention and an Aircraft Protocol held at Cape Town from 29 October to 16 November 2001. After 16 November 2001, this Protocol shall be open to all States for signature at the Headquarters of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) in Rome until it enters into force in accordance with Article XXVIII.
2. This Protocol shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by States which have signed it.
3. Any State which does not sign this Protocol may accede to it at any time.
4. Ratification, acceptance, approval or accession is effected by the deposit of a formal instrument to that effect with the Depositary.
5. A State may not become a Party to this Protocol unless it is or becomes also a Party to the Convention.

#### **Article XXVII — Regional Economic Integration Organisations**

1. A Regional Economic Integration Organisation which is constituted by sovereign States and has competence over certain matters governed by this Protocol may similarly sign, accept, approve or accede to this Protocol. The Regional Economic Integration Organisation shall in that case have the rights and obligations of a Contracting State, to the extent that that Organisation has competence over matters governed by this Protocol. Where the number of Contracting States is relevant in this Protocol, the Regional Economic Integration Organisation shall not count as a Contracting State in addition to its Member States which are Contracting States.
2. The Regional Economic Integration Organisation shall, at the time of signature, acceptance, approval or accession, make a declaration to the Depositary specifying the matters governed by this Protocol in respect of which competence has been transferred to that Organisation by its Member States. The Regional Economic Integration Organisation shall promptly notify the Depositary of any changes to the distribution of competence, including new transfers of competence, specified in the declaration under this paragraph.
3. Any reference to a “Contracting State” or “Contracting States” or “State Party” or “States Parties” in this Protocol applies equally to a Regional Economic Integration Organisation where the context so requires.

#### **Article XXVIII — 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 the deposit of the eighth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, between the States which have deposited such instruments.
2. For other States this Protocol enters into force 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.

#### **Article XXIX — Territorial units**

1. If a Contracting State has 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 modify its declaration by submitting another declaration at any time.
2. Any such declaration shall state expressly the territorial units to which this Protocol applies.
3. If a Contracting State has not made any declaration under paragraph 1, this Protocol shall apply to all territorial units of that State.
4. Where a Contracting State extends this Protocol to one or more of its territorial units, declarations permitted under this Protocol may be made in respect of each such territorial unit, and the declarations made in respect of one territorial unit may be different from those made in respect of another territorial unit.
5. If by virtue of a declaration under paragraph 1, this Protocol extends to one or more territorial units of a Contracting State:
  - (a) the debtor is considered to be situated in a Contracting State only if it is incorporated or formed under a law in force in a territorial unit to which the Convention and this Protocol apply or if it has its registered office or statutory seat, centre of administration, place of business or habitual residence in a territorial unit to which the Convention and this Protocol apply;
  - (b) any reference to the location of the object in a Contracting State refers to the location of the object in a territorial unit to which the Convention and this Protocol apply; and
  - (c) any reference to the administrative authorities in that Contracting State shall be construed as referring to the administrative authorities having jurisdiction in a territorial unit to which the Convention and this Protocol apply and any reference to the national register or to the registry authority in that Contracting State shall be construed as referring to the aircraft register in force or to the registry authority having jurisdiction in the territorial unit or units to which the Convention and this Protocol apply.

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#### **Article XXX — Declarations relating to certain provisions**

1. A Contracting State may, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval of, or accession to this Protocol, declare that it will apply any one or more of Articles VIII, XII and XIII of this Protocol.
2. A Contracting State may, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval of, or accession to this Protocol, declare that it will apply Article X of this Protocol, wholly or in part. If it so declares with respect to Article X(2), it shall specify the time-period required thereby.
3. A Contracting State may, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval of, or accession to this Protocol, declare that it will apply the entirety of Alternative A, or the entirety of Alternative B of Article XI and, if so, shall specify the types of insolvency proceeding, if any, to which it will apply Alternative A and the types of insolvency proceeding, if any, to which it will apply Alternative B. A Contracting State making a declaration pursuant to this paragraph shall specify the time-period required by Article XI.
4. The courts of Contracting States shall apply Article XI in conformity with the declaration made by the Contracting State which is the primary insolvency jurisdiction.
5. A Contracting State may, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval of, or accession to this Protocol, declare that it will not apply the provisions of Article XXI, wholly or in part. The declaration shall specify under which conditions the relevant Article will be applied, in case it will be applied partly, or otherwise which other forms of interim relief will be applied.

#### **Article XXXI — Declarations under the Convention**

Declarations made under the Convention, including those made under Articles 39, 40, 50, 53, 54, 55, 57, 58 and 60 of the Convention, shall be deemed to have also been made under this Protocol unless stated otherwise.

#### **Article XXXII — Reservations and declarations**

1. No reservations may be made to this Protocol but declarations authorised by Articles XXIV, XXIX, XXX, XXXI, XXXIII and XXXIV may be made in accordance with these provisions.
2. Any declaration or subsequent declaration or any withdrawal of a declaration made under this Protocol shall be notified in writing to the Depositary.

#### **Article XXXIII — Subsequent declarations**

1. A State Party may make a subsequent declaration, other than a declaration made in accordance with Article XXXI under Article 60 of the Convention, at any time after the date on which this Protocol has entered into force for it, by notifying the Depositary to that effect.

2. Any such subsequent declaration shall take effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of receipt of the notification by the Depositary. Where a longer period for that declaration to take effect is specified in the notification, it shall take effect upon the expiration of such longer period after receipt of the notification by the Depositary.

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

#### **Article XXXIV — Withdrawal of declarations**

1. Any State Party having made a declaration under this Protocol, other than a declaration made in accordance with Article XXXI under Article 60 of the Convention, may withdraw it at any time by notifying the Depositary. Such withdrawal is to take effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of receipt of the notification by the Depositary.

2. Notwithstanding the previous paragraph, this Protocol shall continue to apply, as if no such withdrawal of declaration had been made, in respect of all rights and interests arising prior to the effective date of any such withdrawal.

#### **Article XXXV — Denunciations**

1. Any State Party may denounce this Protocol by notification in writing to 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 receipt of the notification by 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 any such denunciation.

#### **Article XXXVI — Review Conferences, amendments and related matters**

1. The Depositary, in consultation with the Supervisory Authority, shall prepare reports yearly, or at such other time as the circumstances may require, for the States Parties as to the manner in which the international regime established in the Convention as amended by this Protocol has operated in practice. In preparing such reports, the Depositary shall take into account the reports of the Supervisory Authority concerning the functioning of the international registration system.

2. At the request of not less than twenty-five per cent of the States Parties, Review Conferences of the States Parties shall be convened from time to time by the Depositary, in consultation with the Supervisory Authority, to consider:

- (a) the practical operation of the Convention as amended by this Protocol and its effectiveness in facilitating the asset-based financing and leasing of the objects covered by its terms;

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- (b) the judicial interpretation given to, and the application made of the terms of this Protocol and the regulations;
  - (c) the functioning of the international registration system, the performance of the Registrar and its oversight by the Supervisory Authority, taking into account the reports of the Supervisory Authority; and
  - (d) whether any modifications to this Protocol or the arrangements relating to the International Registry are desirable.
3. Any amendment to this Protocol shall be approved by at least a two-thirds majority of States Parties participating in the Conference referred to in the preceding paragraph and shall then enter into force in respect of States which have ratified, accepted or approved such amendment when it has been ratified, accepted or approved by eight States in accordance with the provisions of Article XXVIII relating to its entry into force.

#### **Article XXXVII — Depositary and its functions**

1. Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be deposited with the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT), which is hereby designated the Depositary.
2. The Depositary shall:
  - (a) inform all Contracting States of:
    - (i) each new signature or deposit of an instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, together with the date thereof;
    - (ii) the date of entry into force of this Protocol;
    - (iii) each declaration made in accordance with this Protocol, together with the date thereof;
    - (iv) the withdrawal or amendment of any declaration, together with the date thereof; and
    - (v) the notification of any denunciation of this Protocol together with the date thereof and the date on which it takes effect;
  - (b) transmit certified true copies of this Protocol to all Contracting States;
  - (c) provide the Supervisory Authority and the Registrar with a copy of each instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, together with the date of deposit thereof, of each declaration or withdrawal or amendment of a declaration and of each notification of denunciation, together with the date of notification thereof, so that the information contained therein is easily and fully available; and
  - (d) perform such other functions customary for depositaries.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, having been duly authorised, have signed this Protocol.

DONE at Cape Town, this sixteenth day of November, two thousand and one, in a single original in the English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish languages, all texts being equally authentic, such authenticity to take effect upon verification by the Joint Secretariat of the Conference under the authority of the President of the Conference within ninety days hereof as to the conformity of the texts with one another.

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**Annex**

**FORM OF IRREVOCABLE DE-REGISTRATION  
AND EXPORT REQUEST AUTHORISATION**

Annex referred to in Article XIII

[Insert Date]

To: [Insert Name of 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 manufacturers 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 creditor] ("the authorised party") under the authority of Article XIII of the Protocol to the 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) procure the de-registration of the aircraft from the [insert name of aircraft register] maintained by the [insert name of registry authority] for the purposes of Chapter III of the *Convention on International Civil Aviation*, signed at Chicago, on 7 December 1944, and
  - (b) procure the export and physical transfer of 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 co-operate 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 registry authority].

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

[insert name of operator/owner]

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Agreed to and lodged this  
[insert date]

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

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[insert relevant notational details]

## SCHEDULE 3

Regulation 10

### THE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRY AND REGISTRAR

#### **Introductory**

1. This Schedule makes provision about—
  - (a) the International Registry established in accordance with Article 16 of the Cape Town Convention, and
  - (b) the Registrar appointed in accordance with Article 17(2) of the Cape Town Convention and Article XVII of the Aircraft Protocol.

#### **Status**

2. The Registry and the Registrar are recognised.

#### **Inviolability**

3.—(1) The assets, documents, data bases and archives of the International Registry are inviolable and immune from seizure or other legal or administrative process.

(2) The Supervisory Authority may waive the inviolability and immunity conferred by subparagraph (1).

#### **Claims against Registrar**

4. For the purposes of any claim against the Registrar under Article 28(1) or 44 of the Cape Town Convention, the claimant is entitled to access to such information and documents as are necessary to enable the claimant to pursue its claim.

## SCHEDULE 4

Regulation 12

### THE SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY

#### **Introductory**

1. This Schedule makes provision about the Supervisory Authority established in accordance with Article 17 of the Cape Town Convention and Chapter III of the Aircraft Protocol.

#### **Recognition**

2. The Supervisory Authority (identified in accordance with Article XVII of the Aircraft Protocol) is recognised.

#### **Status**

3. The Supervisory Authority has legal personality.
4. The Supervisory Authority has the legal capacities of a body corporate, for the purposes of entering into agreements under Article 17(3) of the Cape Town Convention, and generally.

SCHEDULE 5

Regulation 50

CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS

PART 1

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

**Mortgaging of Aircraft Order 1972**

1.—(1) The Mortgaging of Aircraft Order 1972(8) is amended as follows.

(2) In Article 2 (interpretation)—

(a) after the definition of “the Authority” insert—

““the Cape Town Convention Regulations” means the International Interests in Aircraft Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Regulations 2015;” and

(b) at the end add—

“(3) An expression used in this Order and in the Cape Town Convention Regulations has the same meaning in this Order as in those Regulations.”

(3) After Article 9 (discharge of mortgages) insert—

**“Transfer to international registration**

9A.—(1) This article applies where the mortgagee applies to the Authority for the removal of an entry from the register on the grounds that an international interest has been registered, or is to be registered, under the Cape Town Convention in respect of the aircraft to which the mortgage relates.

(2) The Authority must—

(a) enter the application in the Register;

(b) mark the relevant entries in the Register ‘Removed on application in respect of registration of international interest’, and

(c) notify the mortgagee, the mortgagor and the owner that it has done so.”

(4) In Article 10 (rectification of the Register) after “for correcting any error therein” insert “(including the removal of incorrect or outdated entries if the court thinks it necessary or appropriate)”.

(5) In Article 14 (priority of mortgages) after paragraph (5) insert—

“(6) This article is subject to the rules set out in regulation 16 of the Cape Town Convention Regulations.”;

(the paragraph inserted in the application of the Article to Scotland by Sch.2, para.1(b)(i) to the Order becomes numbered (7)).

(6) In Schedule 2 (application to Scotland)—

(a) in paragraph 9(a) after “over the aircraft” insert “or who holds a registered interest under the Cape Town Convention”;

(b) at the end of paragraph 9(b) add “and of every person who holds a registered interest under the Cape Town Convention”;

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(8) S.I. 1972/1268; amendments have been made by S.I. 1981/611, S.I. 1986/2001 and by the Criminal Justice Act 1988 c. 33 Pt V s.51.

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- (c) in paragraph 9(c) after “shall be served upon any mortgagee” insert “, and any person who holds a registered interest under the Cape Town Convention,”;
  - (d) for paragraph 10(a) insert—
    - “(a) first, in payment of amounts due under a registered interest under the Cape Town Convention;
    - (aa) secondly, in payment of all expenses properly incurred by him in connection with the sale, or any prior attempted sale, of the aircraft,”;
  - (e) in paragraph 10(b), for “secondly,” substitute “thirdly,”;
  - (f) in paragraph 10(c), for “thirdly,” substitute “fourthly,”;
  - (g) in paragraph 10(d), for “fourthly,” substitute “fifthly,”;
  - (h) in paragraph 10(e), for “fifthly,” substitute “sixthly,”;
  - (i) in paragraph 11(1) after “as holding a mortgage over the aircraft” insert “, every person who holds a registered interest under the Cape Town Convention,”;
  - (j) in paragraph 11(4), for “the owner and every person shown in the Register as holding a mortgage over the aircraft,” substitute “the owner and every person shown in the Register as holding a mortgage over the aircraft and every person who holds a registered interest under the Cape Town Convention,”;
  - (k) in paragraph 12 after “a mortgagee in any mortgage of an aircraft registered in the United Kingdom” insert “, or a person who holds a registered interest under the Cape Town Convention,”.
- (7) In relation to the holder of a registered interest under the Cape Town Convention—
- (a) the reference in paragraph 9 of Schedule 2 to 60 days is to be taken as a reference to 10 days (unless a longer period is agreed between the parties), and
  - (b) the reference in paragraph 11(4) to 30 days is to be taken as a reference to 10 days (unless a longer period is agreed between the parties).
- (8) Nothing in Schedule 2 prevents the holder of a registered interest under the Cape Town Convention from exercising a remedy under these Regulations or in accordance with the Cape Town Convention or the Aircraft Protocol.

### **Civil Aviation (Chargeable Air Services) (Detention and Sale of Aircraft) Regulations 2001**

2.—(1) The Civil Aviation (Chargeable Air Services) (Detention and Sale of Aircraft) Regulations 2001<sup>(9)</sup> are amended as follows.

- (2) In regulation 2 (interpretation) after the definition of “authorised person” insert—
 

““the Cape Town Convention Regulations” means the International Interests in Aircraft Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Regulations 2015;”.
- (3) In regulation 7 (application of proceeds of sale) at the end add “(with priority being given to any person or persons having an international interest within the meaning of the Cape Town Convention Regulations, in accordance with the rules set out in regulation 16 of those Regulations)”.
- (4) In the Schedule (notice of application to court)—
  - (a) in paragraph 1(1) (requirement to give notice) after paragraph (e) insert—
 

“(ea) any person who has an international interest in the aircraft in accordance with the Cape Town Convention Regulations;” and

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(9) [S.I. 2001/493](#).

- (b) in paragraph 2(2) for “shall be served” substitute “may be served by any reasonable electronic means or”.

### **Civil Aviation (Chargeable Air Services) (Detention and Sale of Aircraft for Eurocontrol) Regulations 2001**

**3.—**(1) The Civil Aviation (Chargeable Air Services) (Detention and Sale of Aircraft for Eurocontrol) Regulations 2001<sup>(10)</sup> are amended as follows.

- (2) In regulation 2 (interpretation) after the definition of “authorised person” insert—

““the Cape Town Convention Regulations” means the International Interests in Aircraft Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Regulations 2015;”.

(3) In regulation 8 (application of proceeds of sale) at the end add “(with priority being given to any person or persons having an international interest within the meaning of the Cape Town Convention Regulations, in accordance with the rules set out in regulation 16 of those Regulations)”.

- (4) In the Schedule (notice of application to court)—

- (a) in paragraph 1(1) (requirement to give notice) after paragraph (e) insert—

“(ea) any person who has an international interest in the aircraft in accordance with the Cape Town Convention Regulations;”;

- (b) in paragraph 2(2) for “shall be served” substitute “may be served by any reasonable electronic means or”.

### **Air Navigation Order 2009**

**4.—**(1) The Air Navigation Order 2009<sup>(11)</sup> is amended as follows.

- (2) At the end of article 7 (changes to the register) add—

“(6) (The CAA must also cancel the registration of an aircraft as soon as reasonably practical if satisfied that a person wishes and is entitled to procure the de-registration of the aircraft in accordance with Article IX (modification of default remedies provisions) of the Aircraft Protocol (within the meaning of the International Interests in Aircraft Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Regulations 2015).

(7) Paragraph (6) is subject to regulation 51 of the 2015 Regulations (disapplication in respect of pre-existing rights and interests).”

- (3) After article 8 (aircraft which are entered in the Register of Aircraft Mortgages) insert—

#### **“Aircraft subject to an international interest**

**8A.—**(1) This article applies to an aircraft—

- (a) which is the subject of a registered international interest within the meaning of the International Interests in Aircraft Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Regulations 2015, and

- (b) in respect of which an irrevocable de-registration and export request authorisation is in force.

(2) The registration of an aircraft to which this article applies does not become void by virtue of article 7(1).

(3) The CAA may cancel the registration of an aircraft to which this article applies under article 7(4) only in pursuance of an application made by a person who is recorded,

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<sup>(10)</sup> S.I. 2001/494.

<sup>(11)</sup> S.I. 2009/3015.

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in accordance with regulation 22 of the 2015 Regulations, as the authorised party under an irrevocable de-registration and export request authorisation in respect of the aircraft.

(4) Article 8(2) does not apply to an aircraft to which this article applies (subject to regulation 51 of the 2015 Regulations (transitional provision)).

(5) Expressions used in this article have the same meaning as in the 2015 Regulations.”

### **Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme Regulations 2012/3038**

5. At the end of paragraph 8(2)(g) of Schedule 9 to the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme Regulations 2012(12) (Detention and sale of aircraft: procedure for applying for leave to sell aircraft) add “(including an international interest within the meaning of the International Interests in Aircraft Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Regulations 2015)”.

## **PART 2**

### **ACTS**

#### **Bills of Sale Act 1878**

6. The Bills of Sale Act 1878(13) (and any equivalent applying to Northern Ireland) is not to apply to a security agreement which creates or provides for an international interest.

#### **Bills of Sale Act (1878) Amendment Act 1882**

7. The Bills of Sale Act (1878) Amendment Act 1882(14) (and any equivalent applying to Northern Ireland) is not to apply to a security agreement which creates or provides for an international interest.

#### **Civil Aviation Act 1982**

8.—(1) Section 88 of the Civil Aviation Act 1982(15)(detention and sale of aircraft for unpaid airport charges: application of proceeds) is amended as follows.

(2) At the end of subsection (6) add “(with priority being given to any person or persons having an international interest within the meaning of the Cape Town Convention Regulations, in accordance with the rules set out in regulation 16 of those Regulations)”.

(3) After subsection (6) insert—

“(6A) In subsection (6) “the Cape Town Convention Regulations” means the International Interests in Aircraft Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Regulations 2015.”

#### **Companies Act 2006**

9. Section 859A of the Companies Act 2006(16) (charges created by a company: registration) is not to apply to a charge which is an international interest.

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(12) S.I. 2012/3038.

(13) 1878 c.31.

(14) 1882 c.43.

(15) 1982 c.16; section 88 is amended by the Transport Act 2000 (c. 38) section 97, Schedule.8 (Part 3) paragraph.6(2) and 6(3), the Airports Act 1986 (c.31), section 83(5), Schedule. 6 Part.1, the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 (c. 39) section 180(1), (2), Schedule 13 paragraphs 126(4), Schedule.14, and the Civil Aviation Act 2006 (c. 34) section 13, Schedule 2 paragraph 2.

(16) 2006 c.46; section 859A was inserted by the Companies Act 2006 (Amendment of Part 25) Regulations S.I. 2013/600 Schedule.1 paragraph.1.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the Regulations)*

These Regulations give effect in UK law to the Cape Town Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment, together with its Protocol on Matters Specific to Aircraft Equipment.

Regulation 6 provides for the international interest provided for by Articles 2 to 7 of the Cape Town Convention as modified by the Aircraft Protocol (including articles II, III and IV of the Aircraft Protocol) to have effect in UK law.

A full impact assessment of the effect that this instrument will have on the cost of business, the voluntary sector and the public sector is available from the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills on the gov.uk website ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)). An Explanatory Memorandum and a transposition note are available alongside the instrument on the [www.legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk) website. Copies have also been placed in the Libraries of both Houses of Parliament.