

ARTICLE 7

Safety Standards, Certificates and Licences

1. Certificates of airworthiness, certificates of competency and licences, that are issued or rendered valid by the aeronautical authorities of one Contracting Party and that are still in force, shall be recognized as valid by the aeronautical authorities of the other Contracting Party for the purposes of operating the agreed services provided that such certificates or licences were issued or rendered valid pursuant to, and in conformity with, as a minimum, the standards established under the Convention. The aeronautical authorities of each Contracting Party reserve the right, however, to refuse to recognize, for the purpose of flights above or landing within its own territory, certificates of competency and licences granted to its own nationals by the other Contracting Party.
2. If the privileges or conditions of the certificates or licences referred to in paragraph 1 above, issued by the aeronautical authorities of one Contracting Party to any person or designated airline or in respect of an aircraft used in the operation of the agreed services, permit a difference from the minimum standards established under the Convention, and which difference has been filed with the International Civil Aviation Organization, the other Contracting Party may request consultations between the aeronautical authorities of the Contracting Parties in conformity with Article 20 of this Agreement with a view to clarifying the practice in question.
3. Consultations concerning the safety standards and requirements maintained and administered by the aeronautical authorities of the other Contracting Party relating to aeronautical facilities, crew members, aircraft, and operation of the designated airlines shall be held within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a request from either Contracting Party, or such other period as may be mutually determined by the Contracting Parties. If, following such consultations, the aeronautical authorities of one Contracting Party find that the aeronautical authorities of the other Contracting Party do not effectively maintain and administer safety standards and requirements in these areas that are at least equal to the minimum standards established pursuant to the Convention, the aeronautical authorities of the other Contracting Party shall be notified of such findings and the steps considered necessary to conform with these minimum standards. Failure to take appropriate corrective action within fifteen (15) days, or such other period as may be accepted by the aeronautical authorities of the Contracting Party that made the findings, shall constitute grounds for withholding, revoking, suspending or imposing conditions on the authorizations of the designated airlines of the other Contracting Party.
4. Pursuant to Article 16 of the Convention, each Contracting Party agrees that any aircraft operated by or, if approved, on behalf of, an airline of one Contracting Party, may, while within the territory of the other Contracting Party, be the subject of an examination by the aeronautical authorities of the other Contracting Party, on board and around the aircraft to verify the validity of the relevant aircraft documents and those of its crew members and the apparent condition of the aircraft and its equipment (in this Article referred to as "ramp inspection"), provided that such ramp inspection does not cause an unreasonable delay in the operation of the aircraft.