# Overview & Status of Ratification - Cape Town Convention & Aircraft Protocol 2001

ICAO Legal Seminar, Nairobi, Kenya Tan Siew Huay (Ms) 27 Nov 2017



#### **Presentation Outline**

- Aircraft Financing Considerations (Background)
- Cape Town Convention & Aircraft Protocol (Overview)
- Status of Ratifications (African States)
- Useful Resources

# **Aircraft Financing**

#### A Historical View

# Phase 1 - "Statism"

- State ownership / control / guarantee
- High degree of regulation
- Low probability of default

# Phase 2 - Transition

- Advanced contracting practices
- Complex structures & reliance on favourable choice of law / forum
- Eroding phase 1 features

# Phase 3 - "Privatism"

- Private ownership / control; less State guarantee
- Less regulation
- Increased probability of default

- Jeffrey Wool, Secretary General, Aviation Working Group

# **Aircraft Financing Considerations**

# Airline Credit Ratings

Aircraft Collateral

Jurisdiction & Legal Framework



#### The Problem

- Widely differing approaches among legal systems to security, title reservation & leasing rights
- Gives rise to uncertainty among financiers as to efficacy of their rights over aircraft which have no one fixed location
- Inhibits financing & increase borrowing costs
- Q: How to obtain secure & readily enforceable rights?

#### **Solution Sought**

 International legal regime with uniform rules to increase predictability & certainty & reduce risks in aviation asset-based financing & leasing

# **Cape Town Convention & Aircraft Protocol**

- Convention & Aircraft Protocol are to be read & interpreted together as a single instrument
- Together establish rules
  - that enable creation of an <u>international interest</u> in an aircraft object (airframes, aircraft engines & helicopters)
  - for determining <u>priority between competing interests</u>
  - that enable creation & operation of an <u>International Registry</u> (transparency & effectiveness against 3<sup>rd</sup> parties)
  - for quick & effective <u>default remedies</u> (enforcement measures), including speedy relief pending final determination of creditor's claim & effectiveness in insolvency proceedings
  - for <u>declarations</u> for States (mandatory, opt-in & opt-out)
- More secure protection for creditors
- Good for lenders/lessors
- More financing available to acquire at lower cost
- Good for airlines/State
- Increased sales by manufacturer
- More jobs/export

# **Cape Town Convention & Aircraft Protocol**

#### **Default Remedies (Enforcement Measures)**

- Parties may agree on what constitutes default
- Contractually agreed remedies for creditor include:
  - Take possession
  - Sell or grant a lease
  - Collect or receive income
  - Vesting of object in satisfaction (strict foreclosure)
  - Termination of agreement
- Protocol enhances creditor remedies on:
  - Deregistration of aircraft
  - Export & physical transfer of aircraft

 Speedy relief pending final determination of creditor's claim

#### **Debtor Safeguards**

- Debtors honouring obligations to be given quiet possession against creditors
- •Remedies to be exercised in commercially reasonable fashion
- Debtor against whom interim relief is given protection if creditor's claim is ultimately unsuccessful

# **Cape Town Convention & Aircraft Protocol**

#### **Insolvency Rules**

- International interest effective in insolvency if registered
- •Contracting State may opt into more effective insolvency provisions in Protocol
- •Choice of 2 options:
  - Alternative A
  - Alternative B

otherwise national law applies

#### **Alternative A**

- Contracting State specifies a waiting period in a declaration &
- Debtor, or insolvency administrator, must either
- give possession to creditor within waiting period or
- within that period <u>cure</u> all defaults & agree to perform all future obligations

#### **Alternative B**

- Debtor, or insolvency administrator, is required either
- upon creditor's request & within waiting period, state whether it will cure all defaults & agree to perform all future obligations, or
- give creditor <u>opportunity of taking possession</u>.
- If not, the <u>court</u> may allow creditor to take possession

### Ratification

- ICAO LEB Administrative Package
- Ratification Steps/Process
- Deposit ratification/accession instrument with UNIDROIT as depositary
- Accompanying <u>Declarations</u> Mandatory, Opt-in &/or Opt-out
- Implementing legislation to ensure force of law & priority over conflicting laws
  - Effective date: date when Convention & Aircraft Protocol enters into force for ratifying/acceding State
- Compliance Application in accordance with treaty terms

## **Ratification - Declarations**

- OECD ASU Qualifying Declarations / Key Economic Declarations
  - 1. <u>Insolvency</u> (Alt. A with no more than 60 day waiting period) Protocol, Art. XI(3)
  - 2. Method of exercising remedies: non-judicial remedies Convention, Art. 54(2) and/or judicial timetables Prot, Art. X (with up to 10 calendar days for conserving remedies (Conv, Art. 13(a)-(c)) and up to 30 calendar days for disposition remedies (Conv, Art. 13(d)-(e))
  - 3. <u>De-registration</u> and export request authorisation Protocol, Art. XIII
  - 4. Choice of law Protocol, Art. VIII
- Lower financing cost benefit (from inclusion on OECD Discount List) not available without the above

#### **Status of Ratifications**

	Cape Town Convention	Cape Town Protocol
No. to enter into force	3	8
No. of Signatories	28	28
No. of States Parties	69	69

	Date of entry into force
Cape Town Convention	1 March 2006, as applied to aircraft equipment, in accordance with Article 49
Cape Town Protocol	1 March 2006, in accordance with Article XXVIII(1)

- http://www.icao.int/secretariat/legal/List%20of%20Parties/CapeTown-Conv\_EN.pdf
- http://www.icao.int/secretariat/legal/List%20of%20Parties/CapeTown-Prot\_EN.pdf

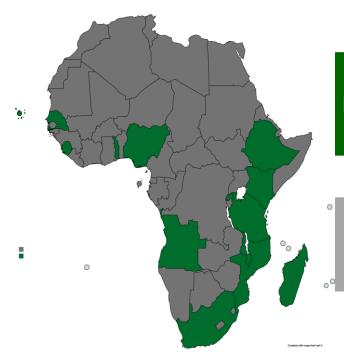
As at 26 Nov 2017

#### **Status of Ratifications in Africa**

#### 20 African States have ratified/acceded as of November 2017

- Angola
- Cabo Verde
- Cameroon
- Congo
- Cote d'Ivoire
- Democratic Republic of the • Sierra Leone Congo
- Ethiopia
- Gabon
- Kenya

- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mozambique
- Nigeria
- Rwanda
- Senegal
- South Africa
- Swaziland
- Togo
- Tanzania



Qualifying **Declarations** adopted

Qualifying **Declarations** not adopted

Burkina Faso has ratified. Pending entry into force.

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This chart does <u>not</u> address implementation issues and, thus, does <u>not</u> address eligibility for the OECD 'Cape Town Discount'

#### Status of Ratifications in Africa

#### Cape Town Treaty with Aircraft Protocol

#### Ensuring proper declarations and implementation



From Aviation Working Group



#### **Useful Resources**

- ICAO **Doc 9793** Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment, *Signed at Cape Town on 16 November 2001*
- ICAO Doc 9794 Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Aircraft Equipment, Signed at Cape Town on 16 November 2001
- ICAO Doc 9794 Consolidated Text (Attachment to Resolution No. 1 of the Cape Town Diplomatic Conference)
- Official Commentary by Professor Roy Goode Available at <a href="www.ctcap.org">www.ctcap.org</a> & <a href="www.unidroit.org/englistry.aero">www.iInternationalregistry.aero</a> (For purchase of book version <a href="http://www.unidroit.org/english/conventions/mobile-equipment/publications/commentaryconvention&aircraftprotocol.pdf">http://www.unidroit.org/english/conventions/mobile-equipment/publications/commentaryconvention&aircraftprotocol.pdf</a>)
- ICAO's Administrative Package for Ratification / Accession -<a href="https://www.icao.int/secretariat/legal/Administrative%20Packages/capeconprot\_en.pdf">https://www.icao.int/secretariat/legal/Administrative%20Packages/capeconprot\_en.pdf</a>
- UNIDROIT website www.unidroit.org
- Aviation Working Group website www.awg.aero
- Cape Town Convention Academic Project <u>www.ctcap.org</u>

# Thank you for your attention!

