

**DRAFT OF AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN
AND
THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS**

INDEX

| | |
|----------|---------------------------|
| PREAMBLE | |
| ART. 1 | DEFINITIONS |
| ART. 2 | OPERATING RIGHTS |
| ART. 3 | DESIGNATION OF AIRLINES |
| ART. 4 | REVOICATIONS |
| ART. 5 | EXEMPTIONS |
| ART. 6 | AIRPORT CHARGES |
| ART. 7 | TARIFFS |
| ART. 8 | COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES |
| ART. 9 | LAWS AND REGULATIONS |
| ART. 10 | CERTIFICATES AND LICENCES |
| ART. 11 | AVIATION SAFETY |
| ART. 12 | SECURITY |
| ART. 13 | TAX SYSTEM |
| ART. 14 | CAPACITY |
| ART. 15 | STATISTICS |
| ART. 16 | CONSULTATIONS |
| ART. 17 | MODIFICATIONS |
| ART. 18 | SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES |
| ART. 19 | REGISTRATION |
| ART. 20 | MULTILATERAL CONVENTIONS |
| ART. 21 | TERMINATION |
| ART. 22 | ENTRY INTO FORCE |



PREAMBLE

The Kingdom of Spain and The Commonwealth of the Bahamas hereinafter referred to as the Contracting Parties;

Desiring to promote an international aviation system which offers fair and equal opportunities to their respective airlines for the operation of the services and which allows them to compete in accordance with the laws and regulations of each Contracting Party;

Desiring to facilitate the expansion of international air transport opportunities;

Desiring to ensure the highest degree of safety and security in international air transport and reaffirming their grave concern about acts or threats against the security of aircraft, which jeopardize the safety of persons or property; and

Being Parties to the Convention on International Civil Aviation opened for signature at Chicago on the seventh day of December 1944;

Have agreed as follows:



ARTICLE 1
DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of the interpretation and application of this Agreement, except as otherwise provided herein:

- a) the term **Convention** means the Convention on International Civil Aviation opened for signature at Chicago on the seventh day of December, 1944, and includes any Annex adopted under Article 90 of that Convention, any amendment of the Annexes or the Convention under Article 90 and 94 thereof so far as those Annexes and amendments have become effective for or have been ratified by both Contracting Parties;
- b) the term **Aeronautical Authorities** means in the case of the Kingdom of Spain, on the civil level, the Ministry of Fomento (General Directorate of Civil Aviation), and in the case of The Commonwealth of the Bahamas, The Bahamas Civil Aviation Authority or, in both cases, any person or body duly authorized to perform any function related to this Agreement exercised by the said Authorities;
- c) the term **designated airline** means the airline providing international air services that each Contracting Party has designated to operate the agreed services on the specified routes as established in the Annex to this Agreement and in accordance with Article 3 of this Agreement;
- d) the terms **territory, international air service, and stop for non traffic purposes** have the meanings specified in Articles 2 and 96 of the Convention;
- e) the term **Agreement** means this Agreement, its Annexes and any amendments thereto;
- f) the term **specified routes** means the routes established or to be established in the Annex to this Agreement;
- g) the term **agreed services** means the international air services which can be operated, according to the provisions of this Agreement, on the specified routes;
- h) the term **tariff** means the prices to be paid for the carriage of passengers, baggage and freight (except mail) including any significant additional benefit granted or provided together with the said transport as well as the commission to be paid in connection with the sale of tickets and with the corresponding transactions for the carriage of goods. It also includes the conditions for the application of the transport price and the payment of the appropriate commission;
- i) the term **nationals**, in the case of Spain, shall be understood as referring to nationals of European Union Member States;
- j) the term **EU Treaties** shall be understood as referring to the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.



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ARTICLE 2
OPERATING RIGHTS

1. Each Contracting Party grants to the other Contracting Party the rights specified in this Agreement, for the purpose of establishing scheduled international air services on the routes specified in the Annex hereto.
2. The airlines designated by each Contracting Party, shall enjoy, while operating an agreed service on a specified route, the following rights:
 - a) to fly over the territory of the other Contracting Party without landing;
 - b) to make stops in the said territory for non-traffic purposes;
 - c) to make stops in the said territory at points specified in the Route Schedule in the Annex to this Agreement for the purpose of taking on or putting down international traffic of passengers, cargo and mail, jointly or separately, in accordance with the provisions of the Annex to this Agreement, to or from the territory of the other Contracting Party or to or from the territory of another State;
3. Airlines of either Contracting Party other than the designated airlines shall be ensured the rights specified in paragraphs a) and b) above.
4. Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to confer on the designated airlines of one Contracting Party rights of cabotage in the territory of the other Contracting Party.



ARTICLE 3
DESIGNATION OF AIRLINES

1. Each Contracting Party shall have the right to designate by written notification through diplomatic channels to the other Contracting Party as many airlines as it wishes for the purpose of operating the agreed services on the specified routes and to substitute or withdraw an airline previously designated for another airline.
2. On receipt of such designation, and on application from the designated airline, in the form and manner prescribed, the other Contracting Party shall grant without delay the appropriate operating authorizations and permissions, subject to the provisions of paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Article.
3. The Aeronautical Authorities of one Contracting Party may require any airline designated by the other Contracting Party to satisfy them that it is qualified to fulfil the conditions prescribed under the laws and regulations normally and reasonably applied to the operation of international air services by such authorities in conformity with the provisions of the Convention.
4. The granting of the operating authorizations referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article shall require:
 - a) in the case of an airline designated by the Kingdom of Spain:
 1. it is established in the territory of the Kingdom of Spain under the EU Treaties and has a valid Operating License in accordance with European Union law; and
 2. effective regulatory control of the airline is exercised and maintained by the European Union Member State responsible for issuing its Air Operator Certificate and the relevant Aeronautical Authority is clearly identified in the designation; and
 3. the airline is owned, directly or through majority ownership, and it is effectively controlled by Member States of the European Union and/or nationals of EU Member States, and/or by other States listed in Annex II and/or by nationals of such other States.

- b) in the case of an airline designated by The Commonwealth of the Bahamas:
1. it has its principal place of business in the territory of The Commonwealth of the Bahamas and is licensed in accordance with the applicable law of The Commonwealth of the Bahamas; and
 2. the Commonwealth of the Bahamas has and maintains effective regulatory control of the airline; and
 3. the airline is owned, directly or through majority ownership, and it is effectively controlled by The Commonwealth of the Bahamas.
5. When an airline has been so designated and authorized, it may begin at any time to operate the agreed services in accordance with the provisions established in this Agreement.



ARTICLE 4 REVOCATIONS

1. Each Contracting Party shall have the right to revoke the operating authorizations or technical permissions or to suspend the exercise of the rights specified in Article 2 of this Agreement given to an airline designated by the other Contracting Party, or to impose such conditions as it may deem necessary for the exercise of these rights:

a) in the case of an airline designated by:

1. the Kingdom of Spain:

- i) it is not established in the territory of the Kingdom of Spain under the EU Treaties or does not have a valid Operating Licence in accordance with European Union law; or
- ii) effective regulatory control of the airline is not exercised or not maintained by the European Union Member State responsible for issuing its Air Operator Certificate or the relevant Aeronautical Authority is not clearly identified in the designation; or
- iii) the airline is not owned, directly or through majority ownership, or it is not effectively controlled by Member States of the European Union and/or nationals of EU Member States, and/or by other States listed in Annex II and/or by nationals of such other States.

2. the Commonwealth of the Bahamas:

- i) it does not have its principal place of business in the territory of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas or is not licensed in accordance with the applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas; or
- ii) the Commonwealth of the Bahamas is not maintaining effective regulatory control of the airline; or
- iii) the airline is not owned, directly or through majority ownership, or it is not effectively controlled by the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

b) in the case of failure by that airline to comply with the laws and regulations of the Contracting Party granting these rights; or

c) in any case in which that airline otherwise fails to operate the agreed services in accordance with the conditions prescribed under this Agreement; or

d) in the case of failure by the other Contracting Party to comply with or apply the Safety and Security standards in accordance with Articles 11 and 12 of this Agreement.

2. Without prejudice to the provisions under Articles 11 and 12 and unless immediate revocation, suspension or imposition of the conditions mentioned in paragraph 1 of this



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Article are essential to prevent further infringement of the laws and regulations, such a right shall be exercised only after consultations with the other Contracting Party.



ARTICLE 5
EXEMPTIONS

1. Aircraft operated in international air services by the designated airlines of either Contracting Party, as well as their regular equipment, supplies of fuels and lubricants, and aircraft stores (including food, beverages and tobacco) which are on board such aircraft shall be exempt, on a reciprocal basis and in accordance with the applicable legislation, from all limitations on imports, taxes on property and capital, customs duties, special taxes and fees or similar charges and other duties or taxes levied in the territory of the other Contracting Party, provided that such equipment and supplies remain on board the aircraft up to such time as they are re-exported.
2. There shall also be exempt from the same duties and taxes, with the exception of those payments corresponding to the service performed:
 - a) aircraft stores taken on board in the territory of either Contracting Party, within the limits fixed by the Authorities of the said Contracting Party, and for use on board the aircraft engaged in international air services of the other Contracting Party;
 - b) spare parts, brought into the territory of either Contracting Party for the maintenance or repair of aircraft used on international air services by the designated airlines of the other Contracting Party;
 - c) fuels and lubricants destined to supply aircraft operated on international air services by the designated airlines of the other Contracting Party, even when these supplies are to be used on the part of the journey performed over the territory of the Contracting Party in which they are taken on board;
 - d) printed tickets, airway bills, any printed material which bears the insignia of the company printed thereon and usual publicity material distributed without charge by the designated airlines;
 - e) the aviation safety and protection equipment to be used at airports and cargo terminals.
3. Regular airborne equipment, as well as materials and supplies on board the aircraft of either Contracting Party may be unloaded in the territory of the other Contracting Party only with the approval of the Customs Authorities of such territory. In such case, they may be placed under the supervision of the said Authorities up to such time as they are re-exported or otherwise disposed of in accordance with the Customs regulations.

4. The exemptions provided for by this Article shall also be available in situations where the designated airlines of either Contracting Party have entered into arrangements with other airlines, for the loan or transfer in the territory of the other Contracting Party, of the regular equipment and the other items referred to in this Article provided that the other airline or airlines enjoy the same exemptions from that other Contracting Party.

5. Passengers in transit across the territory of either Contracting Party as well as their baggage shall be subject to the controls established under the applicable Customs regulations. Baggage and cargo in direct transit shall be exempt from customs duties and other similar taxes levied on imports.

6. The exemptions provided for in this Article shall be granted in accordance with the procedures established in the Customs regulations.



ARTICLE 6
AIRPORT CHARGES

The charges for the use of each airport including its installations, technical and other facilities and services as well as any charges for the use of air navigation facilities, communication facilities and services shall be made in accordance with the tariffs established by each Contracting Party on the territory of its State, in accordance with Article 15 of the Convention provided that they may not exceed the ones set for its own national aircraft used on similar international services for the use of the said airport and services.



ARTICLE 7

TARIFFS

1. The tariffs to be charged by the designated airlines of each Contracting Party for the international carriage in the services provided under this Agreement shall be freely established at reasonable levels, due regard being paid to all relevant factors, including the cost of operation, characteristics of the service, interests of users, a reasonable profit and other market considerations.

2. Each Contracting Party may require notification or filing of any tariff to be charged by its own designated airline or airlines. Neither Contracting Party shall require notification or filing of any tariff to be charged by the designated airline or airlines of the other Contracting Party.

3. Without prejudice of the applicable competition and consumer protection laws prevailing in each Contracting Party, neither Contracting Party shall take unilateral action to prevent the inauguration or continuation of an effective tariff proposed to be charged or charged by a designated airline of the other Contracting Party for the international carriage in the services provided under this Agreement.

Intervention by the Contracting Parties shall be limited to:

- a) prevention of unreasonably discriminatory prices or practices;
- b) protection of consumers from prices that are unreasonably high or restrictive due to abuse of a dominant position;
- c) protection of airlines from prices that are artificially low due to direct or indirect subsidy or support;
- d) protection of airlines from prices that are artificially low, where evidence exists as to an intent to eliminate competition.

4. Where the Aeronautical Authorities find that a certain tariff falls within the categories set forth in paragraph 3.a, 3.b, 3.c and 3.d they shall send reasoned notification of their dissatisfaction to the Aeronautical Authorities of the other Contracting Party and to the airline involved as soon as possible; and they may request consultations in accordance with the procedures established under paragraph 5 of this Article.

5. The Aeronautical Authorities of each Contracting Party may request the Aeronautical Authorities of the other Contracting Party consultations on any tariff charged by an airline of the other Contracting Party for the international carriage to or from the territory of the first Contracting Party, including those tariffs for which a notice of dissatisfaction has been given. These consultations shall be held not later than thirty (30) days after receipt of the request. The Contracting Parties shall cooperate in securing the necessary information for a reasoned resolution of the issue. If an agreement is reached with respect to a tariff for which a notice of dissatisfaction has been given, the Aeronautical Authorities of each Contracting Party shall use their best efforts to put that agreement into effect. If such a mutual agreement is not reached, the tariff shall continue to be in effect.

6. A tariff established in accordance with the provisions of this Article shall remain in effect unless subsequently disapproved in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 4 and 5 above.



ARTICLE 8
COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

1. The designated airlines of each Contracting Party shall be allowed, on the basis of reciprocity, to maintain in the territory of the other Contracting Party, their offices and representatives, as well as their senior commercial, operational and technical staff as required in connection with the operation of the agreed services.
2. The request for staff may, at the option of the designated airlines of each Contracting Party, be satisfied either by their own personnel or by using the services of any other organization, company or airline operating in the territory of the other Contracting Party, and authorized to perform such services in the territory of that Contracting Party.
3. The representatives and staff shall be subject to the laws and regulations in force of the other Contracting Party, and, according to such laws and regulations, each Contracting Party shall process, on the basis of reciprocity and with the minimum delay, the residency and employment authorizations, visas, where applicable, or other similar documents for the representatives and staff referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.
4. Should special circumstances require the entry or presence of staff on an emergency and temporary basis, the authorizations, visas and any other documents required by the laws and regulations of each Contracting Party shall be processed promptly so as not to delay the entry of such personnel into the state concerned.
5. Any designated airline shall consider to contract the ground handling services out, in full or in part, at its option, with any of the suppliers authorized for the provision of such services. Otherwise the airline shall have the right to provide their own ground-handling services in the territory of the other Contracting Party. Where or as long as the laws and regulations applicable to ground handling in the territory of one Contracting Party prevent or limit either the freedom to contract these services out or self-handling, any designated airline shall be treated on a non-discriminatory basis as regards their access to self-handling and ground handling services provided by a supplier or suppliers.
6. On a reciprocal and non-discriminatory basis with respect to any other airline operating in international traffic, the airlines designated by the Contracting Parties shall be free to sell air transport services in the territories of both Contracting Parties, either directly or through an agent, and in any currency in accordance with the laws in force in each Contracting Party.



7. The airlines of each Contracting Party shall be free to transfer from the territory of sale to their home territory the excess, in the territory of sale, of receipts over expenditure. Included in such net transfer shall be revenues from sales, made directly or through an agent of air transport services, and ancillary and supplementary services, and normal commercial interest earned on such revenues while on deposit awaiting transfer.

8. Such remittances shall be made without prejudice to any fiscal obligations in force in the territory of either Contracting Party.

9. The airlines designated by the Contracting Parties shall be granted, without delay, the appropriate authorization to make such remittances in freely convertible currency at the official rate of exchange in force at the time of the request.

10. The designated airlines of each Contracting Party shall be permitted to employ, in connection with international air transport, any surface transport with respect to cargo, to or from any points in the territories of the Parties or third countries. Airlines may elect to perform their own surface transport or to provide it through arrangements, including code share, with other surface carriers. Such intermodal services may be offered as a through service and at a single price for the air and surface transport with combined, provided that shippers are informed as to the providers of the transport involved.



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ARTICLE 9
LAWS AND REGULATIONS

1. Each Contracting Party laws and regulations controlling the admission to or departure from its own territory of aircraft engaged in international air services or related to the operation of aircraft while within its territory, shall be applied to the aircraft of the designated airlines of the other Contracting Party.

2. The laws and regulations controlling over the entry, movement, stay and departure of passengers, crew, baggage, mail and cargo, over the territory of each Contracting Party, and also the regulations related to the requirements of entry and departure from the country, immigration, customs and sanitary rules, shall be applied in such territory to the operations of the designated airlines of the other Contracting Party.



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ARTICLE 10
CERTIFICATES AND LICENSES

1. Certificates of airworthiness, certificates of competency and licenses issued or validated in accordance with the laws and regulations of one Contracting Party and still in force shall be recognized as valid by the other Contracting Party for the purpose of operating the agreed services on the specified routes in the Annex to this Agreement, provided always that the requirements under which such certificates and licenses were issued or validated are equal or above the minimum standards established under the Convention.

2. Each Contracting Party reserves the right, however, of refusing to recognize the validity of the certificates of competency and the licenses granted to its own nationals by the other Contracting Party, for the purpose of overflying and/or landing in its own territory.



124

ARTICLE 11
AVIATION SAFETY

1. Each Contracting Party may request consultations at any time concerning safety standards in any area relating to aircrew, aircraft or their operation adopted by the other Contracting Party. Such consultations shall take place within thirty (30) days of that request.

2. If, following such consultations, one Contracting Party finds that the other Contracting Party does not effectively maintain and administer safety standards in any such area that are at least equal to the minimum standards established at that time pursuant to the Convention, the first Contracting Party shall notify the other Contracting Party of those findings and the steps considered necessary to conform with those minimum standards, and that other Contracting Party shall take appropriate corrective action. Failure by the other Contracting Party to take appropriate action within fifteen (15) days or such longer period as may be agreed, shall be grounds for the application of Article 4 of this Agreement (Revocations).

3. In accordance with the obligations established in Article 16 of the Convention, it is agreed that any aircraft operated by the airline or airlines of one Contracting Party on services to or from the territory of the other Contracting Party may, while within the territory of the other Contracting Party, be made the subject of an examination, in this Article called "ramp inspection", provided this does not lead to unreasonable delay. Notwithstanding the obligations established in Article 33 of the Convention, such inspection shall be performed, by the authorized representatives of the other Contracting Party, on board and around the aircraft to check both the validity of the aircraft documents and those of its crew and the apparent condition of the aircraft and its equipment.

4. If any such ramp inspection or series of ramp inspections gives rise to:

- a) serious concerns that an aircraft or the operation of an aircraft does not comply with the minimum standards established at that time pursuant to the Convention, or
- b) serious concerns that there is a lack of effective maintenance and administration of safety standards established at that time pursuant to the Convention,

the Contracting Party carrying out the inspection shall, for the purposes of Article 33 of the Convention, be free to conclude that the requirements under which the certificate or licenses in respect of that aircraft or in respect of the crew of that aircraft had been issued or rendered valid, or that the requirements under which that aircraft is operated, are not equal to or above the minimum standards established pursuant to the Convention.



5. In the event that access for the purpose of undertaking a ramp inspection of an aircraft operated by the airline or airlines of one Contracting Party in accordance with paragraph 3 above is denied by the representative of that airline or airlines, the other Contracting Party shall be free to infer that serious concerns of the type referred to in paragraph 4 above arise and draw the conclusions referred in that paragraph.

6. Each Contracting Party reserves the right to suspend or vary the operating authorization of an airline or airlines of the other Contracting Party immediately in the event the first Contracting Party concludes, whether as a result of a ramp inspection, a series of ramp inspections, a denial of access for ramp inspection, consultation or otherwise, that immediate action is essential to the safety of an airline operation.

7. Any action by one Contracting Party in accordance with paragraphs 2 or 6 above shall be discontinued once the basis for the taking of that action ceases to exist.

8. Where the Kingdom of Spain has designated an airline whose regulatory control is exercised and maintained by another European Union Member State, the rights of the other Contracting Party under this Article shall apply equally in respect of the adoption, exercise or maintenance of safety standards by that other European Union Member State and in respect of the operating authorization of that airline.

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ARTICLE 12

SECURITY

1. Consistent with their rights and obligations under international law, the Contracting Parties reaffirm that their obligation to each other to protect the security of civil aviation against acts of unlawful interference forms an integral part of this Agreement. Without limiting the generality of their rights and obligations under international law, the Contracting Parties shall in particular act in conformity with the provisions of the Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft, signed at Tokyo on 14th September 1963, the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, signed at The Hague on 16th December 1970, the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, signed at Montreal on 23rd September 1971, the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, signed at Montreal on 24th February 1988 which is supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, done at Montreal on 23rd September 1971, and the Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection, signed at Montreal on 1st March 1991.

2. The Contracting Parties shall provide upon request all necessary assistance to each other to prevent acts of unlawful seizure of aircraft and other unlawful acts against the safety of such aircraft, their passengers and crew, airports and air navigation facilities, and any other threat to the security of civil aviation.

3. The Contracting Parties shall, in their mutual relations, act in conformity with the aviation security provisions established by the International Civil Aviation Organization and designated as Annexes to the Convention to the extent that such security provisions are applicable to the Contracting Parties; they shall require that operators of aircraft of their registry or operators of aircraft who have their principal place of business or head office in the territory of the Contracting Parties or, in the case of the Kingdom of Spain, operators of aircraft which are established in its territory under the EU Treaties and have valid Operating Licenses in accordance with European Union law, and the operators of airports in their territory act in conformity with such aviation security provisions.



4. Each Contracting Party agrees that its operators of aircraft shall be required to observe the aviation security provisions referred to in the paragraph above required by the other Contracting Party for entry into, departure from, or while within the territory of that Contracting Party. For departure from, or while within, the territory of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, operators of aircraft shall be required to observe aviation security provisions in conformity with the law in force in that country. For departure from, or while within, the territory of the Kingdom of Spain, operators of aircraft shall be required to observe aviation security provisions in conformity with European Union law and with the Spanish current regulations on that matter. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that adequate measures are effectively applied within its territory to protect the aircraft and to inspect passengers, crew, carry-on items, baggage, cargo and aircraft stores prior to and during boarding or loading. Each Contracting Party shall also give sympathetic consideration to any request from the other Contracting Party for reasonable special security measures to meet a particular threat.

5. When an incident or threat of an incident of unlawful seizure of civil aircraft or other unlawful acts against the safety of such aircraft, their passengers and crew, airports or air navigation facilities occur, the Contracting Parties shall assist each other by facilitating communications and other appropriate measures intended to terminate rapidly and safely such incident or threat thereof.

6. When a Contracting Party has reasonable grounds to believe that the other Contracting Party has departed from the aviation security provisions of this Article, that Contracting Party may request immediate consultations with the other Contracting Party.

7. Without prejudice to Article 4 (Revocations) of this Agreement, failure to reach a satisfactory agreement within fifteen (15) days from the date of such request, or such longer period as agreed, will constitute grounds to withhold, revoke, limit or impose conditions on the operating authorization or technical permission of the airlines of both Contracting Parties.

8. When required by an immediate and extraordinary threat, a Contracting Party may take interim action prior to the expiry of fifteen (15) days.

9. Any action taken in accordance with the paragraph 7 above shall be discontinued upon compliance by the other Contracting Party with the provisions of this Article.



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ARTICLE 13
TAX SYSTEM

While an Agreement governing the tax system of the airlines to avoid the double taxation between the Contracting Parties is not applicable, each Contracting Party shall exempt the designated airlines of the other Contracting Party whose effective management head offices are located in the territory of such a Contracting Party, on a mutual basis, from all taxes and charges on profits and earnings obtained from air service operations without prejudice to compliance with the formal obligations legally laid down by each Contracting Party.



ARTICLE 14

CAPACITY

1. There shall be a fair and equal opportunity for the designated airlines of the Contracting Parties to operate the agreed services on the routes specified in this Agreement.
2. In operating the agreed services, the Aeronautical Authorities of both Contracting Parties shall be free to establish jointly the capacity and traffic rights to be offered by the designated airlines of either Contracting Party.
3. The frequencies and time schedules established for the operation of the agreed services shall be notified when so required to the Aeronautical Authorities of the other Contracting Party at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of the operation or such shorter period as the Aeronautical Authorities of the other Contracting Party may agree.
4. In instances where any of the Contracting Parties considers that the services provided by one or more airlines of the other Contracting Party do not comply with the requirements and principles provided by this Article, it may ask for consultations in accordance with Article 16 of this Agreement in order to examine the operations in question and determine on a mutual basis any action which may be deemed necessary.

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ARTICLE 15
STATISTICS

The Aeronautical Authorities of either Contracting Party shall supply to the Aeronautical Authorities of the other Contracting Party, at their request, the information and statistics related to the traffic carried by the airlines designated by each Contracting Party on the agreed services to or from the territory of the other Contracting Party in the same form as they have been prepared and submitted by the designated airlines to their national Aeronautical Authorities. Any additional statistical data related to traffic which the Aeronautical Authorities of one Contracting Party may request from the Aeronautical Authorities of the other Contracting Party shall be subject to discussions between the Aeronautical Authorities of both Contracting parties, at the request of either Contracting Party.



ARTICLE 16
CONSULTATIONS

In a spirit of close cooperation, the Aeronautical Authorities of the Contracting Parties shall consult each other from time to time with a view to ensuring the implementation of, and satisfactory compliance with, the provisions of the Agreement.



ARTICLE 17
MODIFICATIONS

1. If either Contracting Party considers it desirable to modify any of the provisions of this Agreement, it may request consultation with the other Contracting Party. Such consultation may be between the Aeronautical Authorities and may be conducted by discussion or correspondence and shall begin within a period of sixty (60) days from the date of the request. Any modifications so agreed shall come into force in accordance with Article 22.

2. Modifications to the Annex to this Agreement may be made by direct agreement between the competent Aeronautical Authorities of the Contracting Parties and confirmed by exchange of diplomatic notes. Consultations to this effect may be conducted by discussion or correspondence and shall begin within a period of sixty (60) days from the date of the request.



ARTICLE 18
SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

If any dispute arises between the Contracting Parties relating to the interpretation or application of this Agreement, except those that may arise under Article 11 (Safety) or Article 12 (Aviation Security), the Aeronautical Authorities of the Contracting Parties shall in the first place endeavor to settle the dispute by consultations and negotiation.

If Aeronautical Authorities of the Contracting Parties fail to reach a settlement by negotiation within (60) sixty days, then the dispute should be referred for consultation using diplomatic channels.

Contracting Parties will seek to resolve and agree to use their best efforts to reach a settlement within (120) one hundred and twenty days.



ARTICLE 19
REGISTRATION

The Agreement, including any amendments thereto, shall be registered with the International Civil Aviation Organization.



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ARTICLE 20
MULTILATERAL CONVENTIONS

In the event of the conclusion by both Contracting Parties of a Multilateral Convention or Agreement concerning matters regulated by this Agreement after the latter has come into force, the said Contracting Parties shall hold consultations in order to determine the advisability of revising the Agreement to conform to the provisions of such Multilateral Convention or Agreement.



ARTICLE 21
TERMINATION

Either Contracting Party may at any time give notice to the other Contracting Party of its decision to terminate this Agreement. Such notice shall be simultaneously communicated to the International Civil Aviation Organization. In such a case, the Agreement shall terminate twelve (12) months after the date of receipt of the notice by the other Contracting Party, unless the notice of termination is withdrawn by mutual agreement before the expiry of this period. In the absence of acknowledgement of receipt by the other Contracting Party, the notice shall be deemed to have been received fourteen (14) days after the receipt of the notice by the International Civil Aviation Organization.



ARTICLE 22
ENTRY INTO FORCE

This Agreement shall enter into force one month after the date of the later note in an exchange of diplomatic notes between the Contracting Parties confirming that their respective constitutional requirements have been fulfilled.



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In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed the present Agreement.

Done in duplicate at this day of, in the Spanish and English languages, all texts being equally authentic.

FOR THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
BAHAMAS



ANNEX I
To the Air Transport Agreement between
the Kingdom of Spain and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas

SECTION I
ROUTE SCHEDULE

1. Route which may be operated in both directions by the airlines designated by Spain:

Points in Spain – intermediate points – points in The Bahamas – points beyond.

2. Route which may be operated in both directions by the airlines designated by The Bahamas:

Points in The Bahamas – intermediate points – points in Spain – points beyond.

GENERAL NOTES

1. The designated airlines may change the order or omit one or more points on the routes indicated in paragraphs 1 and 2 of section I of this Annex, in whole or part of their services, provided that the departure point on the route is located in the territory of the Contracting Party which has designated such airlines.

2. The intermediate and beyond points on the above routes to be operated with fifth freedom traffic rights by the designated airlines, shall be agreed upon between the Aeronautical Authorities of both Contracting Parties.

3. The points in the territory of The Bahamas and the points in the territory of Spain indicated in paragraphs 1 and 2 of section I and the intermediate points and points beyond established on both routes to be operated without fifth freedom traffic rights, shall be freely selected by the designated airlines of each Contracting Party and will be notified to the Aeronautical Authorities of both Contracting Party thirty (30) days before the commencement of the services. Likewise, the points initially selected may be replaced.

SECTION II
CODE-SHARE CLAUSE

1. In operating or holding out the agreed services on the specified routes, or on any sector of the routes, the designated airlines of each Contracting Party may enter into co-operative marketing arrangements such as blocked space or code sharing with airlines of any one of the two Contracting Parties or with third country airlines holding the appropriate rights. In the event of third country airlines, the concerned third country shall authorize or allow comparable arrangements between the airlines of the other Contracting party and other airlines on services to, from and via such a third country.
2. Where a designated airline operates services under code-share arrangements, as the operating airline, the operated capacity shall be counted against the capacity entitlements of the Contracting Party designating the said airline.
3. Capacity offered by a designated airline acting as the marketing airline on the services operated by other airlines shall not be counted against the capacity entitlements of the Contracting Party designating the said airline.
4. No fifth freedom traffic rights shall be exercised by the marketing airlines on the services provided under code-share arrangements.
5. The designated airlines of any one of the Parties may transfer traffic between the aircraft involved in code share operations, without restrictions on the number, size or type of aircraft, provided that the service is scheduled as a direct connection flight.
6. Code-share services shall meet the regulatory requirements normally applied to such operations by the Contracting Parties, such as protection of and information to passengers, security, liability and any other requirements generally applied to other airlines operating international traffic.
7. The designated airlines of either Contracting Party shall submit the programs and schedules of the services concerned for consideration and, where appropriate, approval by the Aeronautical Authorities of the other Contracting Party, at least thirty (30) days before the date proposed for the start of the operations.

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ANNEX II

**To the Air Transport Agreement between
the Kingdom of Spain and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas**

**LIST OF OTHER STATES REFERRED TO
IN ARTICLES 3 AND 4 OF THIS AGREEMENT**

- a) Republic of Iceland (under the Agreement on the European Economic Area);
- b) Principality of Liechtenstein (under the Agreement on the European Economic Area);
- c) Kingdom of Norway (under the Agreement on the European Economic Area);
- d) Swiss Confederation (under the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on Air Transport).

