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**EXPLANATORY REPORT TO THE PRELIMINARY DRAFT PROTOCOL TO THE  
CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS IN MOBILE EQUIPMENT ON  
MATTERS SPECIFIC TO AGRICULTURAL, CONSTRUCTION AND MINING  
EQUIPMENT**

(Prepared by the UNIDROIT Secretariat)

**Introduction**

1. The purpose of this document is to provide explanatory comments on the provisions of the preliminary draft Protocol to the Convention on International Interests on Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Agricultural, Construction and Mining Equipment (hereinafter “the preliminary draft MAC Protocol”). The analysis is derived from three sources. Firstly, where provisions have been taken directly from previous Protocols to the Cape Town Convention, material from the Official Commentaries of the previous Protocols has been adapted to explain the purpose and function of the relevant provisions. Secondly, where new provisions have been drafted, the Secretariat has prepared analysis based upon the documents provided to the Study Group during its deliberations. Finally, explanatory notes have also been taken from the reports of the Study Group, which reflect its views on certain matters.
2. The document is to be considered in conjunction with the legal analysis, which provides a more in-depth analysis of the legal and policy considerations underpinning the preliminary draft MAC Protocol (UNIDROIT 2016 - Study 72K – CGE1 – Doc. 4).
3. A list of abbreviations and acronyms for instruments and international organisations used in UNIDROIT documents is available at Appendix I to this Explanatory Report.

**PRELIMINARY DRAFT PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL  
INTERESTS IN MOBILE EQUIPMENT ON MATTERS SPECIFIC TO AGRICULTURAL,  
CONSTRUCTION AND MINING EQUIPMENT**

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**PRELIMINARY DRAFT PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS IN MOBILE EQUIPMENT ON MATTERS SPECIFIC TO AGRICULTURAL, CONSTRUCTION AND MINING 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 agricultural, construction and mining equipment, in the light of the purposes set out in the preamble to the Convention,*

*AWARE of the benefits of extending the Convention to other categories of high value and mobile equipment,*

*RECOGNISING the important role that agricultural, construction and mining equipment play in the global economy and in particular for developing countries,*

*MINDFUL of the need to adapt the Convention to meet the particular requirements of agricultural, construction and mining equipment and their finance,*

*HAVE AGREED upon the following provisions relating to agricultural, construction and mining equipment:*

**Comment**

1. The preamble reflects the primary purpose of a Protocol to the Cape Town Convention, which is to adapt the Convention to the particular requirements of the industry sector affected while otherwise leaving it unchanged. The preliminary draft MAC Protocol, like the Convention, is based on the policy of allowing a high degree of party autonomy and recognition of the need to provide the creditor with adequate safeguards in the event of default, which are reinforced as regards agricultural, construction and mining equipment by the insertion of additional remedies and the modification of provisions of the Convention that restrict the exercise of remedies. However, it also incorporates provisions enabling a Contracting State to balance its legal philosophy on key issues against the economic advantages of particular provisions and to make a declaration excluding such provisions, wholly or in part, where an opt-out is required, or to make no declaration, where an opt-in is required.

2. The text for the preamble is taken from the almost uniform text used in the Aircraft Protocol and the Luxembourg Rail Protocol.<sup>1</sup> The only new paragraph inserted into the preamble by the Study

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<sup>1</sup> The Space Protocol contains a longer preamble than the Aircraft and Luxembourg Rail Protocols: *CONSIDERING it desirable to implement the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment (hereinafter referred to as the Convention) as it relates to space assets, in the light of the purposes set out in the preamble to the Convention, CONSCIOUS of the need to adapt the Convention to meet the particular demand for and the utility of space assets and the need to finance their acquisition and use, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION the benefits to all States from expanded space-based services and financing which the Convention and this Protocol may yield, MINDFUL of the principles of space law, including those contained in the international space treaties of the United Nations and the instruments of the International Telecommunication Union, RECALLING, for the carrying out of the transfers contemplated by this Protocol, the pre-eminence of State Party rights and obligations under the international space treaties of the United Nations by which the States Parties concerned are bound, RECOGNISING the continuing development of the international commercial space industry and contemplating the expected benefits of a uniform and predictable regimen governing interests in space assets and in related rights and facilitating asset-based financing of the same, HAVE AGREED upon the following provisions relating to space assets:*

Group is paragraph 4 (*RECOGNISING the important role that agricultural, construction and mining equipment play in the global economy and in particular for developing countries*) which is intended to reflect that developing countries often have a larger proportion of their economies reliant on primary industries such as agriculture and mining, and as such would particularly benefit from access to modern high value MAC equipment that could be financed at a reasonable cost.

3. In the second paragraph, the Luxembourg Rail Protocol shortens the phrase inside the parenthesis to “(the “Convention”)”, however the Space Protocol subsequently readopted the original phrasing in the Aircraft Protocol ‘(hereinafter referred to as the Convention)’. It is unclear as to why the text in the Luxembourg Rail Protocol diverged in this respect. Paragraph 2 of the preamble of the preliminary draft MAC Protocol adopts the language of the Aircraft and Space Protocols.

## 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) *“agricultural equipment” means an object that falls under a Harmonized System code listed in Annex 1 to the Protocol;*
  - (b) *“construction equipment” means an object that falls under a Harmonized System code listed in Annex 2 to the Protocol;*
  - (c) *“guarantee contract” means a contract entered into by a person as guarantor;*
  - (d) *“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;*
  - (e) *“Harmonized System” means the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System governed by The International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System;*
  - (f) *“immovable-associated equipment” means agricultural, construction or mining equipment that is so associated with immovable property that an interest in the immovable property extends to the equipment under the law of the State in which the immovable property is situated;*
  - (g) *“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;*
  - (h) *“mining equipment” means an object that falls under a Harmonized System code listed in Annex 3 to the Protocol; and*
  - (i) *“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.*

## Comment

4. Article I(1) provides that, except where the context otherwise requires, terms used in the Protocol have the same meanings as those used in the Convention (Article I(1)). As such, the 40 Convention definitions have always to be borne in mind when reading the Protocol.

5. Paragraph 2, subparagraphs (c) “guarantee contract”, (d) “guarantor”, (g) “insolvency-related event” and (i) “primary insolvency jurisdiction” are identical to the definitions in Article I of the previous three Protocols to the Cape Town Convention. Paragraph 2, subparagraphs (a) “agricultural equipment”, (b) “construction equipment”, (e) “Harmonized System”, (f) “immovable-related equipment” and (h) “mining equipment” are new definitions inserted into the preliminary draft MAC Protocol.

6. Rather than attempting to offer general definitions of “agricultural equipment,” “construction equipment” and “mining equipment” which might have encompassed equipment not meeting the requirements of Article 51(1) of the Convention, paragraph (2)(a),(b) and (c) extend the application of the preliminary draft Protocol to those types of equipment listed in the Annexes to the Protocol (Annex 1 for agricultural equipment, Annex 2 for construction equipment and Annex 3 for mining equipment). Throughout the history of the MAC Protocol project, concerns had been raised regarding its scope.<sup>2</sup> Specifically, the concern most often voiced was that the scope of a protocol covering all agricultural, construction and mining equipment was too broad. The use of descriptive definitional approach as utilised in the Aircraft Protocol (Article I(2)(a),(b),(c)), Luxembourg Rail Protocol (Article I(2)(e) and Space Protocol (Article I(2)(k)) was not appropriate in the MAC Protocol context. The preliminary draft MAC Protocol uses the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS System) to identify the types of agricultural, construction and mining equipment to be covered by the Protocol (see the definition of “Harmonized System”<sup>3</sup> above). The Annexes to the preliminary draft MAC Protocol list the HS codes that cover the types of agricultural, construction and mining equipment which fall within the scope of the Protocol. Use of the HS System to define the scope of the preliminary draft MAC Protocol ensures that the Protocol will apply to high value equipment used primarily in the agriculture, construction and mining industries. There are 36 HS codes listed in the Annexes to the preliminary draft MAC Protocol (20 in Annex 1, 28 in Annex 2 and 17 in Annex 3).<sup>4</sup> The HS codes were suggested by the private sector through the MAC Working Group (further information on the Working Group below), and were scrutinised by the Study Group.

7. The term “agricultural” should be interpreted consistently with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) definition of the qualifier “agricultural”, which includes forestry and fisheries (to the extent that fisheries cover aquaculture equipment). The Study Group considered that there was no need to include such a definition in the text of the Protocol, and that this could be sufficiently dealt with in the Official Commentary.

8. The terms “guarantee contract” and “guarantor” cover not only suretyship guarantees and credit insurance, which are accessory to the principal contract, are dependent upon its validity and

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<sup>2</sup> See [UNIDROIT 2006 – C.D. \(85\) 19](#), page 10; [UNIDROIT 2009 – C.D. \(88\) 17](#), paragraphs 143 – 147; [UNIDROIT 2010 – C.D. \(89\) 17](#); paragraphs 33 – 37; [UNIDROIT 2011 – C.D. \(90\) 18](#), paragraphs 68 – 70; [UNIDROIT 2012 – C.D. \(91\) 15](#), paragraphs 46 – 47; [UNIDROIT 2013 – C.D. \(92\) 17](#), paragraphs 44 – 48; [UNIDROIT 2014 – C.D. \(93\) 14](#), paragraphs 34 – 38.

<sup>3</sup> Harmonized System” refers to the most recent version adopted by the World Customs Organisation as currently in force. The Harmonized Commodity System is a global nomenclature system providing uniform classification of commodities or merchandise in international trade. States also use it to monitor controlled goods and quotas, calculate and collect internal excise and sales taxes, compile transport statistics, etc.

<sup>4</sup> It should be noted that the same HS code may be listed in more than one Annex, because equipment covered by that HS code is used in more than one of the three relevant industries (for example, an HS code might cover excavators that are used in both construction and mining and thus would be listed in both Annexes 2 and 3 respectively).



are triggered by the default of the principal debtor, but also guarantees which are issued as independent payment undertakings and are payable on written demand and presentation of any other specified documents irrespective of performance or default in performance of the underlying transaction, for example, documentary credits, demand guarantees and standby credits. A guarantor is an “interested person” within the definition of Article 1(m)(ii) of the Convention and as such is entitled to be given notice of an intended sale or lease by the creditor (Article 8(4)) and to discharge an international interest after default by the debtor (Article 9(4)) and be considered for protection by the court in proceedings for advance relief (Article 13(2)(3)). The parties to a related guarantee contract may choose the law to govern their relations *inter se* (Article VI(2)).

9. An “insolvency-related event” is an event which triggers the remedies of the creditor specified in the alternative versions of Article X, which itself is dependent on the making of a declaration by the Contracting State concerned and can be excluded by agreement of the parties (Article III). There are two alternative limbs to the definition. The first is the traditional commencement of insolvency proceedings. For the meaning of this see, Article 1(d) of the Convention. The second, a declared intention to suspend payments, or actual suspension of payments, where a creditor may not commence proceedings or exercise Convention remedies by law or State action, also constitutes an insolvency-related event. This is required because, in certain systems, debtors in relation to agricultural, construction, and mining equipment may not be eligible for insolvency proceedings. More generally, the basic intent of the second limb of the provision is to trigger the starting of the time period in Article X of the Protocol (any of the Alternatives) where there are financial problems and State action or law (whether made or taken before or after a declared intention to suspend payment) prevents application of the remedies under the Convention. Where the law preventing or suspending the right to institute insolvency proceedings is not in force and State action has not been taken at the time of the declaration of intention, the declaration becomes an insolvency related event when such law comes into force or the requisite State action has been taken.

10. The “primary insolvency jurisdiction” is the Contracting State in which the centre of the debtor’s main interests (COMI) is situated. There is a rebuttable presumption that this is the place of the debtor’s statutory seat or, if none, the place where it is incorporated or formed. This last part is a slightly different formulation from that used in Article 4(1)(a) of the Convention, which refers to the Contracting State “under the law of which” the debtor is incorporated or formed. In practice, this will almost invariably be the law of the place of incorporation or formation. The presumption does not cover all possibilities. In particular it does not apply to a natural person, and in the case the “centre of main interests” is presumably the debtor’s place of business or, if more than one, its principal place of business.

11. “Immovable-associated equipment” is defined by a specific test that takes into account the relationship between a MAC object and immovable property under the domestic law of the State in which the equipment is located in order to determine whether an interest related to the immovable property extends to the MAC object. Adopting this approach to the definition of “immovable-associated equipment” was adopted to obviate the need to provide a uniform definition of “fixture”, which would have been extremely challenging and may have made the Protocol less desirable to States considering ratification/accession.

## **Article II – Application of the Convention as regards agricultural, construction and mining equipment**

1. *The Convention shall apply in relation to agricultural, construction and mining equipment as provided by the terms of this Protocol and Annexes 1, 2 and 3.*
2. *The Convention and this Protocol shall be known as the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment as applied to agricultural, construction and mining equipment.*
3. *A Contracting State may, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval of, or accession to this Protocol, declare that it will limit the application of the Protocol to one or two of the Annexes.*
4. *This Protocol does not apply to objects falling within the definition of "aircraft objects" under the Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters Specific to Aircraft Equipment, "railway rolling stock" under the Luxembourg Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters Specific to Railway Rolling Stock or "space assets" under the Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters Specific to Space Assets.*

### **Comment**

12. Paragraph 1 emphasises in relation to agricultural, construction and mining equipment the controlling power of the Protocol over the Convention as provided by Articles 6 (Relationship between the Convention and the Protocol) and 49 (Entry into Force) of the Convention. It is consistent with Article II(1) in the three previous Protocols, the only difference being that the preliminary draft MAC Protocol additionally provides for the Convention to apply to the Annexes to the Protocol.

13. Paragraph 2 provides the name under which the Convention and Protocol should be known together, and is identical to the corresponding provisions in Article II(2) of the three previous Protocols.

14. Paragraph 3 provides States with the ability to "opt out" of the application of the Protocol to the categories of equipment listed in each individual Annex to the Protocol. The effect of a Contracting State opting out of an Annex is that the Protocol will not apply to the category of equipment (agricultural, construction or mining) covered by the Annex that has been the subject of the opt out. When ratifying/acceding to the Protocol, a State will automatically apply it to all three categories of equipment, unless a specific declaration is made in relation to this article. Certain HS codes are listed in more than one Annex, because MAC equipment which they cover are used in two or more of the agricultural, construction and mining fields. If a Contracting State opts out of one Annex which covers a certain HS code, if that HS code is listed in a separate Annex which the Contracting State has not opted out of, then the Protocol will continue to apply to MAC equipment under that HS code in the Contracting State. This rule applies regardless of the end use of the equipment. An international interest in MAC equipment under the preliminary draft MAC Protocol cannot be challenged on the basis of how the equipment is actually used.

15. Paragraph 4 is designed to ensure that objects falling within the scope of the Aircraft Protocol, the Luxembourg Rail Protocol or the Space Protocol do not fall within the scope of the preliminary draft MAC Protocol. It does this by carving out of the preliminary draft MAC Protocol any object which would fall under any of the previous Protocols, even if that object falls within the definition of

“agricultural, construction or mining” objects (by virtue of being listed in one of the relevant HS codes in the Annexes to the Protocol).

16. This paragraph has been inserted primarily to address the situation where some types of “railway rolling stock” could be considered MAC equipment. In contrast, it is highly unlikely that some equipment subject to the Aircraft and Space Protocols would also be covered by the preliminary draft MAC Protocol.

### Article III – Derogation

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

#### Comment

17. Article III is consistent with Article IV(3) of the Aircraft Protocol, Article III of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XVI of the Space Protocol.

18. Article III enables the parties, by agreement in writing, to exclude the application of Article X altogether or, in their relations with each other, to derogate from or vary the effect of any of the provisions of the Protocol except Article VIII(3)–(4). “Writing” includes authenticated tele-transmissions (Convention, Article 1(nn)). The exclusion of Article X by agreement of the parties is not, of course, necessary unless the Contracting State that is the primary jurisdiction has elected to make a declaration under Article XXVI(3) opting into one of the insolvency alternatives in Article X. Where this is the case, then despite the absence of the word “other” before “provisions” it seems clear from the use of the word “exclude” in relation to Article X, in contrast to “derogate from or vary”, that the power of derogation or variation is not exercisable in relation to Article X and that the parties must either exclude the application of Article X in its entirety or adhere in full to the Alternative selected by the State that is the primary insolvency jurisdiction. This is logical because the question which, if any, of the three alternatives is to be selected is a matter for the Contracting State that is the primary insolvency jurisdiction, not the parties, and the Contracting State cannot select part of Alternative A, Alternative B or Alternative C but must select one of those alternatives in its entirety or make no declaration at all. Any exclusion agreement can be invoked by the insolvency administrator as well as the debtor. The parties cannot derogate from the provisions of Article VIII(3) and (4), laying down certain conditions for the exercise of remedies and can derogate or vary other provisions of the Protocol only in the relations between themselves and no so far as affecting third parties.

#### **Article IV – Representative capacities**

*A person may, in relation to agricultural, construction or mining equipment, enter into an agreement, effect a registration as defined by Article 16(3) of the Convention and assert rights and interests under the Convention in an agency, trust or representative capacity.*

#### **Comment**

19. Article IV is identical to Article IV of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol, and is consistent with Article VI of the Aircraft Protocol and the Space Protocol. The Aircraft Protocol has slightly different wording, and both the Aircraft and Space Protocols additionally apply to sales.

20. This provision in effect permits a person to take any action under the Convention – entering into agreements, effecting registrations of any kind in the International Registry and asserting rights and interests – in a representative capacity. Article IV which applies both to disclosed and to undisclosed representation (a party need not disclose or identify its representative capacity in the International Registry), reflects the central role of representation arrangements in agricultural, construction or mining equipment financing, where the sums involved often require syndicated lending and the conferment of representation powers on a trustee or agent. Where a trustee or agent effects a registration on behalf of beneficiaries or principals, it is not open to the beneficiaries or principals to make a separate registration of the same interest. Whether the representative is entitled to take enforcement measures on behalf of the creditors is a matter governed by the agreement (usually an inter-creditor agreement) under which the representative is appointed, but the party against whom such measures are taken is precluded by this Article from contending that the representative has no locus standi.

### **Article V – Identification of agricultural, construction or mining equipment**

1. *For the purposes of Article 7(c) of the Convention and Article XIX of this Protocol, a description of the agricultural, construction or mining equipment is sufficient to identify the agricultural, construction or mining equipment if it contains:*

- (a) a description of the agricultural, construction or mining equipment by item;*
- (b) a description of the agricultural, construction or mining equipment by type;*
- (c) a statement that the agreement covers all present and future agricultural, construction or mining equipment; or*
- (d) a statement that the agreement covers all present and future agricultural, construction or mining equipment except for specified items or types.*

2. *For the purposes of Article 7 of the Convention, an interest in future agricultural, construction and mining equipment identified in accordance with the preceding paragraph shall be constituted as an international interest as soon as the chargor, conditional seller or lessor acquires the power to dispose of the agricultural, construction or mining equipment, without the need for any new act of transfer.*

### **Comment**

21. The description-based approach in Article V is adapted from Article V of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol which provides that unique identification of an object, though essential to an asset-based registration system, is unnecessary for the constitution of an international interest which is based on the agreement of the parties and is not dependent on registration. In consequence the preliminary draft MAC Protocol distinguishes the identification requirements for the formation of an agreement, to which the present Article is directed, from the more stringent requirements for registration imposed by Article XVI. Article V(1) allows any method of description which enables the agricultural, construction or mining equipment to be identified in the agreement creating or providing for the international interest, whether the description is by item, by type or by a statement that the agreement covers all present and future agricultural, construction, or mining equipment or such equipment except for specified items or types. So an international interest can be taken over an entire line of agricultural, construction or mining equipment, and over future agricultural, construction or mining equipment without the need for a new agreement every time an additional object is acquired. Article V(2) dispenses with the necessity for a new, post-acquisition act of transfer by the debtor. While Article V is based on Article V of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol, that Article derives its inspiration from Articles 5 and 7 of the 1988 UNIDROIT Convention on International Factoring. By necessary implication it also over-rides that part of Article 2(2) from the Convention requiring that the object be uniquely identifiable.

## Article VI – Choice of law

1. *This Article applies only where a Contracting State has made a declaration pursuant to Article XXVI(1).*
2. *The parties to an agreement 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.*

### Comment

22. The drafting of this article is consistent with the Choice of Law Provisions in Articles VIII in the Aircraft Protocol and Article VI in the Luxembourg Rail Protocol. Article VIII of the Space Protocol instead reverses the onus of the provision, making it opt out rather than opt in (i.e. under the Space Protocol, the article applies unless expressly excluded in a declaration made by a Contracting State).

23. The Convention makes no express provision for choice of law by the parties. That is left to the rules of private international law of the forum State, which in some jurisdictions may impose certain restrictions, as by excluding selection of the law of a State which has no connection with the parties or the transaction or by requiring that the choice be bona fide. Seeking commercial predictability, the present Article, which applies only where a Contracting State has made a declaration to that effect under Article XXVI, allows the parties to an agreement or a related guarantee contract or subordination agreement or a contract of sale to choose a law governing their relations inter se without restrictions of this kind. States that are not prepared to permit an unqualified selection by the parties, will not opt into this provision. The parties' choice must be respected in all Contracting States that have made a declaration under Article XXVI(1). The choice of law is effective to displace rules of the *lex fori* which are mandatory only in the sense that they cannot be excluded by agreement but which can be excluded by choice of a foreign law, but such choice does not affect overriding mandatory (internationally mandatory) rules of the *lex fori*, that is, rules which are considered of such importance by the *lex fori* that they apply regardless of the applicable law. Such rules do not displace the applicable law except so far as inconsistent with it, they merely sit on top of the applicable law. Member States of European Union are likely to be precluded from making a declaration under Article VI, being bound by the EC Regulation no 593/2008 on the law applicable to contractual obligations (Rome I). Article VI does not apply to the assignment of associated rights, so that the effectiveness of a choice of law clause in such an assignment remains governed by the law applicable to the assignment.

24. The law selected is deemed to be the domestic law of the designated State, excluding its conflict of laws rules. This is in line with the usual conflict of laws approach in international conventions in relation to commercial transactions and avoids problems of *renvoi*. The reference to "law" requires that any choice by the parties be a national legal system, as opposed to the broader "rules of law", which could encompass rules common to a number of States or accepted internationally or even the *lex mercatoria*.

25. Article VI(3) deals with cases where the parties select the law of a territorial unit of a multi-unit State. Although, in contrast to Article 52(1) of the Convention, Article VI(3) is not expressed to be limited to territorial units which have their own system of law, this is inherent in the Article for otherwise there would be no distinct legal system to consider and the party choice would have to be

interpreted as a reference to the law of the State itself. Article VIII(3) is not confined to federal States but applies wherever a State has territorial units with different systems of law.

26. In the relations between themselves the parties may apply the selected law to only part of their contract and, in consequence, may apply different laws to different parts or issues (*dépeçage*).

27. Party choice is limited to contractual rights and obligations. Proprietary rights prospectively affect third parties and rights of creditors on the debtor's insolvency, and are outside the scope of this Article.

28. There is no requirement that the agreement on a choice of law be in writing, though in practice it almost invariably will be.

29. The ability to select the governing law on contractual matters applies not only to agreements constituting international interests but also to contracts of sale, guarantees and subordinations, as well as to other contracts incorporated by reference into any of the foregoing so as to become terms of them.



### **Article VII – Association with immovable property**

1. *This Protocol does not affect the application of any domestic laws that determine whether an international interest in immovable-associated equipment ceases to exist, is subordinated to any other rights or interests in the immovable-associated equipment, or is otherwise affected by the association of the equipment with immovable property, where the immovable-associated equipment is situated in a non-Contracting State.*

2. *A Contracting State, shall, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval of, or accession to this Protocol, declare that the entirety of Alternative A, B, or C of this Article shall apply in relation to an international interest in immovable-associated equipment which is situated in the Contracting State.*

#### *Alternative A*

3. *An international interest in agricultural, construction or mining equipment continues to exist and retains its priority as against any other rights or interests in the immovable-associated equipment and is not otherwise affected by the association of the equipment with the immovable property, notwithstanding that the equipment is immovable-associated equipment.*

#### *Alternative B*

3. *This Protocol does not affect the application of any domestic laws that determine whether an international interest in immovable-associated equipment ceases to exist, is subordinated to any other rights or interests in the immovable-associated equipment, or is otherwise affected by the association of the equipment with immovable property to the extent that the equipment loses its individual legal identity.*

4. *Where agricultural, construction or mining equipment subject to an international interest is immovable-associated equipment and to the extent that it has not lost its individual legal identity, an interest in the immovable property that extends to that equipment has priority over the registered international interest in the equipment only if the following conditions are fulfilled:*

- (a) the interest in the immovable property has been registered in accordance with the requirements of domestic law prior to the time of registration of the international interest in the equipment under this Protocol and registration of the interest in the immovable property continues to be effective; and*
- (b) the equipment became associated with the immovable property prior to the time of registration of the international interest in the equipment under this Protocol.*

#### *Alternative C*

3. *This Protocol does not affect the application of any domestic laws that determine whether an international interest in immovable-associated equipment ceases to exist, is subordinated to any other rights or interests in the immovable-associated equipment, or is otherwise affected by the association of the equipment with immovable property.*

**Comment**

30. This is a new provision not contained in any previous Protocols. No guidance can be drawn from the three previous Protocols, as aircraft objects, railway rolling stock and space assets are not affixable to immovable property. The article is necessary because certain jurisdictions allow the extension of domestic interests in immovable property to equipment used in relation to the immovable property, even where there is no physical or permanent attachment of the mobile equipment to the immovable.

31. Paragraph 1 provides that Article VII does not regulate the association between MAC equipment and immovable property in non-Contracting States. In the absence of an express provision stating otherwise, Article 29 of the Cape Town Convention could be applied in a court of a Contracting State to equipment located in a non-Contracting State, with the effect that an international interest would take priority over any domestic interest arising out of the equipment's association with immovable property. As Article 29 was not drafted to contemplate an international interest conflicting with an interest arising out of association with immovable property, the Study Group concluded that it would be prudent to include a draft provision providing that international interests in MAC equipment do not interfere with immovable property-related interests in non-Contracting States.

32. Paragraph 2 provides that Article VII is a mandatory declaration that must be made by all Contracting States. Failure of a Contracting State to make a mandatory declaration would result in the Depositary declining the instrument of ratification/accession as incomplete and thus not capable of being accepted. The mandatory nature of Article VII underscores the importance of the relationship between international interests in MAC equipment and domestic immovable property interests: the Protocol aspires to give Contracting States some flexibility in determining the applicable rule in their jurisdiction, but also requires them to make an active decision. The language of Paragraph 2 is based upon Article 54(2) of the Cape Town Convention, which requires Contracting States to make a mandatory declaration in relation to whether a court's leave is required to exercise certain remedies under the Convention.

33. The timing of the association between the object and the immovable property is irrelevant in determining how potential conflicts between international interests in the object and interests in the immovable property extending to the same object are resolved.

*Alternative A*

34. Alternative A allows States to declare that an international interest in an object associated with immovable property will continue to exist and enjoy priority over domestic interests resulting from its association with immovable property, even where the domestic law would grant a priority interest in the equipment to the owner of the immovable property or a person that has taken a mortgage or similar encumbrance that extends to the equipment. Alternative A does not distinguish between different types of interests arising out of association with immovable property under some domestic laws (i.e. "fixtures" and "accessories"). The protection provided to the international interest under Alternative A is very broad. In addition to providing that an international interest retains priority against a domestic immovable property interest, Alternative A also provides that the international interest will not be affected by its association with immovable property. This rule would ensure that Contracting States could not impede enforcement of an international interest under the Cape Town Convention by applying provisions of their domestic immovable property law.

*Alternative B*

35. Alternative B distinguishes between different types of immovable-associated equipment, and in doing so it restricts the circumstances under which an international interest in an accessory will lose its priority as against another interest arising from its association with immovable property. The article distinguishes between the different types of interests by use of the additional criterion of 'loss of individual legal identity'. The article reverts to the national law of the location of the immovable property to determine the circumstances under which the loss of individual legal identity occurs.

*Alternative C*

36. Alternative C subordinates an international interest in immovable-associated equipment to domestic law interests arising out of its association with immovable property, to the extent that the domestic law of the Contracting State in which the equipment is situated so provides. By potentially subordinating the international interest to a domestic law interest, Alternative C substantially effects the utility of international interests under the preliminary draft MAC Protocol, and widespread ratification/accession of Alternative C could diminish the effectiveness of the preliminary draft MAC Protocol.

## CHAPTER II

### DEFAULT REMEDIES AND PRIORITIES

#### Article VIII – 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, procure the export and physical transfer of agricultural, construction or mining equipment 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 agricultural, construction or mining equipment. Any remedy given by the Convention in relation to agricultural, construction or mining equipment 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 agreement except where such a provision is manifestly unreasonable.*
4. *A chargee giving fourteen or more calendar days' prior written notice of a proposed sale or lease to interested persons as provided by Article 8(4) of the Convention shall be deemed to satisfy the requirement of giving the "reasonable prior notice" specified therein. The foregoing shall not prevent a chargee and a chargor or a guarantor from agreeing to a longer period of prior notice.*
5. *Subject to any applicable safety laws and regulations, a Contracting State shall ensure that the relevant administrative authorities expeditiously co-operate with and assist the creditor to the extent necessary for the exercise of the remedies specified in paragraph 1.*
6. *A chargee proposing to procure the export of agricultural, construction or mining equipment under paragraph 1 otherwise than pursuant to a court order shall give reasonable prior notice in writing of the proposed 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 export.*

#### Comment

37. Article VIII is consistent with Article VII of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol.

38. Articles VIII to X need to be read together. They contain two distinct sets of provisions. The first set relates to the additional remedies of export and physical transfer. This comprises Articles VIII(1), (2), (5) and (6) and IX(6). The second set embodies modifications of the provisions governing the Convention remedies and comprises Article VIII(3) and (4) and Article IX (other than paragraph (6)).

39. Article VIII(1) adds two remedies to those given in the Convention, namely export and physical transfer of the MAC equipment. It is important to note that these remedies are not an authority to transfer to any specified territory (e.g. in contravention of applicable export control rules) but rather are only authority to transfer MAC equipment from its existing territory. These additional remedies are available to all creditors, that is, chargees, conditional sellers, and lessors, and are included in the remedies available pending final determination under Article 13 of the Convention. They enable the creditor to move the MAC equipment to another State, whether or not a Contracting State, though subject in either case to the laws of that State.

40. The Protocol itself provides machinery for procuring the remedy of export and physical transfer. This is available only where the Contracting State in which the MAC equipment is located has made a declaration under Article XXVI applying Article IX. However, Article VIII(1), which prescribes the remedy, is not itself dependent on a declaration, so that whether or not a Contracting State has made the requisite declaration, it is open to the creditor to fulfil the conditions of Article VIII(1) and (2) which are prerequisites to the substantive remedies and procure these in conformity with the procedural requirements of the *lex rei sitae* (see Article 14 of the Convention). But if a declaration has been made under Article XXVI applying Article IX, it is likely that the creditor will prefer to use the Protocol machinery, which obliges the administrative authorities to provide the remedy if the conditions prescribed by the Protocol are met and precludes it from imposing separate procedural requirements of its own.

41. To obtain the Protocol remedy it is necessary that, in addition to the Contracting State's declaration applying Article IX, four further conditions are satisfied:)

- (i) The debtor must have agreed to the remedy (Article VIII(1)).
- (ii) The debtor must be in default (Article VIII(1)) within the meaning of Article 11 (Article VIII(1)).
- (iii) The creditor must also obtain the prior written consent of the holder of any registered interest ranking in priority to that of the creditor (Article VIII(2)). This last condition is mandatory and cannot be excluded by agreement (Article III). It is not necessary to obtain the prior consent of the holder of an unregistered non-consensual right or interest covered by Article 39 of the CTC.
- (iv) The creditor must either give notice to interested persons as provided by Article VIII(6) or obtain an order for advance relief under Article 13 and notify the administrative authorities in accordance with Article IX(6), or equivalent relief from a foreign court whose jurisdiction is recognised by the home court, and notify the administrative authorities of the grant of the order. The remedies must then be made available within seven calendar days and the applicable authorities must expeditiously co-operate with and assist the creditor in the exercise of those remedies in accordance with any applicable safety laws and regulations.

42. Article 8(3) of the Convention requires that the extra-judicial remedies given by Article 8(1) be exercised in a commercially reasonable manner. Parties cannot derogate from this provision (Article 15). Paragraph 3 of the present Article disapplies Article 8(3) in relation to agricultural, construction and mining equipment and instead extends the requirement of commercial reasonableness to embrace all remedies given by the Convention. This provision is also mandatory and cannot be excluded by agreement (Article III).

43. As under Article 8(3), a remedy is deemed to be exercised in a commercially reasonable manner where exercised in conformity with a provision of the agreement except where such a provision is "manifestly unreasonable". This wording embodies a strong presumption in favour of the reasonableness of a contractual provision as to the mode of exercise of a remedy and is designed to

encourage reliance on contract wording, particularly where the wording is customary in international MAC equipment financing and leasing contracts.

44. Article VIII(4) crystallises the meaning of “reasonable prior notice” in Article 8(4) of the Convention. There is a safe-haven of 14 calendar days, rather than working days as provided in the Aircraft Protocol, so as to allow for greater certainty and to avoid the need to ascertain what are considered working days in the particular jurisdiction in which the remedy is to be exercised. While parties may select and rely on that time-period, it is open to the parties to agree to a longer period but not a shorter one, since Article III precludes derogation from Article VIII(4).

45. Article VIII(5) imposes a general obligation on Contracting States to ensure that the relevant administrative authorities expeditiously assist a creditor in exercising remedies under the Protocol. This is a departure from the Aircraft Protocol, which mandates a Contracting State to honour a request for de-registration and export if two conditions are satisfied. This regulation is particularly appropriate for MAC equipment, given that there may be various administrative authorities responsible for the regulation of MAC equipment. Research prepared by the National Law Center for Inter-American Free Trade on domestic registration and titling regimes for MAC equipment confirmed that this approach, as consistent with Article VII(5) of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol, was most appropriate.

**Article IX – Modification of provisions regarding relief pending final determination**

1. *This Article applies only in a Contracting State which has made a declaration pursuant to Article XXVI(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 calendar 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 sub-paragraph (d):*  
*"(e) if at any time the debtor and the creditor specifically agree, sale of the object 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 VIII(1):*
  - (a) they shall be made available by the administrative authorities in a Contracting State no later than seven calendar days after the creditor notifies such authorities that the relief specified in Article 13 of the Convention 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 safety laws and regulations.*
7. *Paragraphs 2 and 6 shall not affect any applicable safety laws and regulations.*

**Comment**

46. Article IX(6) has already been discussed to some extent in the comment on Article VIII above. The remaining provisions of Article IX need to be read in conjunction with Article VIII(3) and (4). Subparagraph 6(a) provides that relief must be granted by administrative authorities seven calendar days after notification, which is consistent with the Luxembourg Rail Protocol approach, rather than the less exact five working days specified in the Aircraft Protocol.

47. Article IX applies in a Contracting State only if and to the extent that the Contracting State has made an affirmative declaration to that effect under Article XXVI(2). For the purposes of the Convention, "speedy" in the context of obtaining relief means within such number of calendar 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 (Article IX(2)). A Contracting State which makes a declaration under Article IX is required by Article XXVI(2) to specify a binding time-period for the purpose of paragraph 2 of the present Article within which the speedy relief sought is to be given.

On the principle that a party cannot complain of matters caused by its own acts or omissions, a creditor will not have grounds for complaint if a court fails to give relief within the specified time because, for example, the creditor has not filed the correct documents or followed the proper procedures. Paragraph 3 adds sale and application of the proceeds of sale to speedy relief that can be sought under Article 13(1) of the Convention, subject however, to the requirement that the debtor and the creditor “specifically agree”, that is, agree expressly (though not necessarily in writing) to the court’s ordering a sale and application of the proceeds of sale on the creditor’s application. This agreement may be made at any time. As a corollary, paragraph 4 of the Article adds provisions matching those of Article 9(5) of the Convention.

48. Although the term “speedy” in paragraph 2 is not defined and is in regards to a specified date in a declaration made by the Contracting State, specifying the time period for “speedy” relief is not a mandatory declaration.

49. Article 13(2) of the Convention provides protection for the debtor but imposes transaction costs. In relation to MAC equipment, Article IX(5) enables that concern to be addressed by permitting the relevant parties to exclude Article 13(2) by an agreement in writing. This would not otherwise be allowed, since under Article 15 of the Convention Article 13(2) is a mandatory provision. Such agreement does not, however, exclude the debtor’s rights under the applicable law to pursue a claim against the creditor for failure to perform any of its obligations to the debtor under the Convention, nor does it preclude the debtor from exercising any right to damages or other relief given by *lex fori* applicable (a) to the relief under Article 13 or (b) on final determination of the creditor’s claim, if the claim is dismissed and the debtor has suffered loss through the prior granting of relief under Article 13. For the meaning of “writing”, see Article 1 (nn) of the Convention.

50. In Article VIII of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol that corresponds to Article IX(6)(a), the provision erroneously references Article VII(1) (modification of default remedy provisions). Paragraph 5.23(4) of the Official Commentary to the Luxembourg Rail Protocol provides that this article should reference Article 13 of the Cape Town Convention. The preliminary draft MAC Protocol remedies this drafting error by referring to Article 13.

51. Article IX is almost identical (less the drafting error mentioned in the preceding paragraph) to Article VIII of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and broadly consistent with Article X in the Aircraft Protocol.



### **Article X – 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 XXVI(3).*

2. *References in this Article to the “insolvency administrator” shall be to that person in its official, not in its personal, capacity.*

#### *Alternative A*

3. *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 agricultural, construction or mining equipment to the creditor not 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 agricultural, construction or mining equipment if this Article did not apply.*

4. *For the purpose of this Article, the “waiting period” shall be the period specified in a declaration of the Contracting State which is the primary insolvency jurisdiction.*

5. *Unless and until the creditor is given the opportunity to take possession under paragraph 3 :*

- (a) the insolvency administrator or the debtor, as applicable, shall preserve the agricultural, construction or mining equipment and maintain it and its value in accordance with the agreement; and*
- (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 agricultural, construction or mining equipment under arrangements designed to preserve the agricultural, construction or mining equipment and maintain it and its value.*

7. *The insolvency administrator or the debtor, as applicable, may retain possession of the agricultural, construction or mining equipment where, by the time specified in paragraph 3, 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 and related transaction documents. 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 VIII(1):*

- (a) they shall be made available by the administrative authorities in a Contracting State no later than seven calendar 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 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 3.*

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) of the Convention, shall have priority in insolvency proceedings over registered interests.*

13. *The Convention as modified by Article VIII of this Protocol shall apply to the exercise of any remedies under this Article.*

#### *Alternative B*

3. *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 XXVI(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 agricultural, construction or mining equipment, in accordance with the applicable law.*

4. *The applicable law referred to in subparagraph (b) of the preceding paragraph may permit the court to require the taking of any additional step or the provision of any additional guarantee.*

5. *The creditor shall provide evidence of its claims and proof that its international interest has been registered.*

6. *If the insolvency administrator or the debtor, as applicable, does not give notice in conformity with paragraph 3, or when the insolvency administrator or the debtor has declared that it will give the creditor the opportunity to take possession of the agricultural, construction or mining equipment but fails to do so, the court may permit the creditor to take possession of the agricultural, construction or mining equipment upon such terms as the court may order and may require the taking of any additional step or the provision of any additional guarantee.*

7. *The agricultural, construction or mining equipment shall not be sold pending a decision by a court regarding the claim and the international interest.*

#### *Alternative C*

3. *Upon the occurrence of an insolvency-related event, the insolvency administrator or the debtor, as applicable, shall within the cure period:*

- (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 agricultural, construction or mining equipment in accordance with the applicable law.

4. Before the end of the cure period, the insolvency administrator or the debtor, as applicable, may apply to the court for an order suspending its obligation under sub-paragraph (b) of the preceding paragraph for a period commencing from the end of the cure period and ending no later than the expiration of the agreement or any renewal thereof, and on such terms as the court considers just (the "suspension period"). Any such order shall require that all sums accruing to the creditor during the suspension period be paid from the insolvency estate or by the debtor as they become due and that the insolvency administrator or the debtor, as applicable, perform all other obligations arising during the suspension period.

5. If an application is made to the court under the preceding paragraph, the creditor shall not take possession of the agricultural, construction or mining equipment pending an order of the court. If the application is not granted within such number of calendar 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, the application will be deemed withdrawn unless the creditor and the insolvency administrator or the debtor, as applicable, otherwise agree.

6. Unless and until the creditor is given the opportunity to take possession under paragraph 3:

- (a) the insolvency administrator or the debtor, as applicable, shall preserve the agricultural, construction or mining equipment and maintain it and its value in accordance with the agreement; and
- (b) the creditor shall be entitled to apply for any other forms of interim relief available under the applicable law.

7. Sub-paragraph (a) of the preceding paragraph shall not preclude the use of the agricultural, construction or mining equipment under arrangements designed to preserve and maintain it and its value.

8. Where during the cure period or any suspension period the insolvency administrator or the debtor, as applicable, cures all defaults other than a default constituted by the opening of insolvency proceedings and agrees to perform all future obligations under the agreement and related transaction documents, the insolvency administrator or debtor may retain possession of the agricultural, construction or mining equipment and any order made by the court under paragraph 4 shall cease to have effect. A second cure period shall not apply in respect of a default in the performance of such future obligations.

9. With regard to the remedies in Article VIII(1):

- (a) they shall be made available by the administrative authorities in a Contracting State no later than seven calendar 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 safety laws and regulations.*

*10. Subject to paragraphs 4, 5 and 8, no exercise of remedies permitted by the Convention may be prevented or delayed after the cure period.*

*11. Subject to paragraphs 4, 5 and 8, no obligations of the debtor under the agreement and related transactions may be modified in insolvency proceedings without the consent of the creditor.*

*12. 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.*

*13. No rights or interests, except for non-consensual rights or interests of a category covered by a declaration pursuant to Article 39(1) of the Convention, shall have priority in insolvency proceedings over registered interests.*

*14. The Convention as modified by Article VIII of this Protocol shall apply to the exercise of any remedies under this Article.*

*15. For the purposes of this Article, the "cure period" shall be the period, commencing with the date of the insolvency-related event, specified in a declaration of the Contracting State which is the primary insolvency jurisdiction.*

## **Comment**

52. Article X is almost identical to the text of Article IX of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol (less the public service reference), and Alternatives A and B are consistent with Article X of the Aircraft Protocol and Article XXI of the Space Protocol.

53. In order to give Contracting States the widest variety of options in selecting insolvency remedies, the Study Group decided to include all three insolvency alternatives in the preliminary draft MAC Protocol as provided for in previous Protocols to the Cape Town Convention.

54. This provision is perhaps the single most significant provision economically. If the sound legal rights and protections embodied in the Convention and preliminary draft MAC Protocol are not available in the insolvency context, they are not available when they are most needed.

55. This Article, which modifies Article 30(3) of the Convention, is designed to provide in relation to agricultural, construction or mining equipment a special insolvency regime to govern the creditor's rights where the debtor becomes subject to insolvency proceedings or an insolvency-related event (as defined in Article I(2)(g) of the preliminary draft MAC Protocol) has otherwise occurred. The underlying purpose is to reflect the realities of modern structured finance, in particular to facilitate capital market financing, by ensuring as far as possible that, within a specified and binding time-limit, the creditor either (a) secures recovery of the object or (b) obtains from the debtor or the insolvency administrator, as the case may be, the curing of all past defaults and a commitment to perform the debtor's future obligations. Article X applies only where a Contracting State that is the primary insolvency jurisdiction (as defined by Article I(2)(i)) has made a declaration under Article XXVI(3), and it may be excluded by the parties (Article III), though only in its entirety.

56. There are three alternative texts of this Article, Alternative A, the “hard”, or rule-based version, and Alternatives B and C, the “soft”, or discretion-based, versions. A Contracting State considering making a declaration under Article X has a number of options. It may decide to make no declaration at all, in which case Article X will not apply and the Contracting State’s national insolvency law, in its current form, will continue to be applicable in this context. A Contracting State may opt to apply Article X to all types of insolvency proceeding or only to some, and it may apply Alternative A to some types of insolvency proceeding and Alternatives B or C to others, or apply one of these alternatives to all or only some types of insolvency proceedings and make no declaration as to others. But to whatever type of insolvency proceeding Alternative A, Alternative B or Alternative C is applied, it must be applied in its entirety. This is because each of the alternatives embodies a set of integrated provisions which make it impracticable to select one or more without the others. All the Alternatives impose obligations on “the insolvency administrator or the debtor, as applicable”. The debtor itself will be the relevant party where (a) the insolvency-related event is a cessation of payments and insolvency proceedings cannot be opened or have not yet been opened or (b) insolvency proceedings have commenced but the insolvency administrator has not yet been appointed, or (c) the estate is being administered by a debtor in possession. Article X does not provide for the case where there are two or more holders of registered international interests relating to the same object. Where this occurs, the duties of the insolvency administrator are owed to the secured creditors successively in order of their priority, and only when the obligations owed to the first such creditor have been discharged does the next in line become entitled to invoke Article X. The insolvency administrator need not be a court-appointed official; any method of appointment authorised by law suffices.

57. The provision in paragraph 2 of Article X is a boiler-plate provision found in the ‘Remedies on Insolvency’ articles in the previous Protocols (Article XI, Alternative A paragraph 4 in the Aircraft Protocol, Article IX paragraph 2 of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XXI, Alternative A paragraph 5 of the Space Protocol). In the Aircraft and Space Protocols, this provision is located in Alternative A, whereas in the Luxembourg Rail Protocol, it is part of the overarching article and not attached to any specific Alternative. On the basis that it is appropriate for this provision to apply to the meaning of insolvency administrator in all articles, the preliminary draft MAC Protocol follows the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and includes the provision in the overarching provision.

#### *Alternative A*

58. Alternative A requires the insolvency administrator, by the end of the “waiting period” specified in the declaration of the relevant Contracting State or any earlier date on which the creditor would otherwise be entitled to possession under the applicable law, either (a) to give possession of the agricultural, construction or mining equipment to the creditor or (b) to cure all defaults (other than a default constituted by the opening of insolvency proceedings, which of course, is not capable of being cured) and to agree to perform all future obligations under the agreement and related transaction documents, including obligations under other transaction documents (e.g. a loan agreement) which the debtor has, by virtue of their incorporation by reference, agreed to perform under such agreement. “Related transaction documents” is not defined but includes promissory notes given as payment under the agreement or as security for payment, and documents which embody collateral contracts and undertakings forming part of the overall transaction between the parties. It does not, however, include undertakings which are given orally and not embodied in the agreement or some other document. The duties must be performed before the end of the waiting period if the creditor has previously become entitled to possession. The underlying premise is that the commencement of the insolvency proceedings produces a stay on the creditor’s right to possession. Where this is not the case or where any stay has been lifted, the creditor becomes entitled to possession even if the waiting period has not expired.

59. Unless and until the creditor is given the opportunity to take possession or control, the administrator or the debtor, as applicable, must preserve the agricultural, construction or mining

equipment and maintain its value in accordance with the agreement and, subject to this, may allow its use, while the creditor is entitled to apply for any other forms of interim relief available under the applicable law. The applicable law is determined by the *lex fori*. The forum is not necessarily the insolvency forum, since courts chosen by the parties have jurisdiction (Convention, Articles 42, 43(2)), as do courts of a Contracting State on the territory of which the debtor is situated where the interim relief is, by the terms of the order granting it, enforceable only in the territory of that Contracting State (Article 43(2)). Paragraph 8 requires the registry authority and administrative authorities in a Contracting State, as applicable, to make available to the creditor the remedy of export and physical transfer no later than seven calendar days after the creditor has notified such authorities that it is entitled to pursue those remedies in accordance with the Convention, in addition to which they must expeditiously co-operate and assist the creditor, though only in conformity with the applicable safety laws and regulations. It is implicit in this provision that the creditor is in fact entitled to exercise the remedies in question. So if the insolvency administrator's duty to give up possession under paragraph 3 has not yet arisen under that paragraph or the insolvency administrator has acquired the right to retain possession under paragraph 8, the requisite authorities will not be obliged to provide any assistance to the creditor.

60. The duty of the insolvency administrator or the debtor under the Convention to preserve the agricultural, construction, or mining equipment and its value comes to an end once the administrator or the debtor, as the case may be, has given the creditor the opportunity to take possession, whether or not the creditor avails itself of that opportunity. Thereafter, the duty to take care of the agricultural, construction, or mining equipment is governed by the applicable law.

61. Alternative A further restricts the operation of the relevant insolvency law by precluding any order or action which prevents or delays the exercise of remedies after expiry of the waiting period or would modify the obligations of the debtor without the creditor's consent (paragraphs 9 and 10). Moreover, no second waiting period may be imposed in respect of a breach of a commitment to perform future obligations. Accordingly, under this Alternative it would not, for example, be open to the insolvency courts of a Contracting State to suspend the enforcement of an international interest over agricultural, construction, or mining equipment, or vary the terms of the agreement, without the consent of the creditor, nor would provisions of national insolvency law providing for an automatic stay pending reorganisation be operative beyond the declared waiting period. The effect is to displace Article 30(3)(b) of the Convention. Finally paragraph 12 provides that no rights or interests other than non-consensual rights or interests of a category covered by a declaration under Article 39(1) are to have priority in insolvency proceedings over registered interests. The underlying rationale of Alternative A is to give agricultural, construction or mining equipment financiers and lessors the assurance of a clear and unqualified rule.

62. Alternative A presupposes that the creditor holds an international interest which is effective in the insolvency proceedings, either because it was registered in the International Registry prior to the commencement of those proceedings or because it is otherwise effective under the applicable law (see Article 30(1) and (2) of the Convention).

#### *Alternative B*

63. Alternative B requires the insolvency administrator or the debtor, as the case may be, upon the request of the creditor, to notify the creditor within the time specified in a declaration by the Contracting State whether it will (a) cure all defaults and perform all future obligations under the agreement and related transaction documents or (b) give the creditor the opportunity to take possession of the agricultural, construction, or mining equipment, in the latter case subject to any additional step or the provision of any additional guarantee that the court may require as permitted by the applicable law. The right to take possession may be given either by the agreement, in which case it is the law governing the agreement that will be the applicable law, or by the procedural rules

of the forum, in which case the applicable law will be *lex fori*. If the insolvency administrator or debtor does not either give the notice as to performance or give the creditor possession, the court may (but is not obliged to) permit the creditor to take possession on such terms as the court may order. In contrast to the position under Alternative A, the insolvency administrator or the debtor is not required to take any action unless and until required to do so by the creditor; accordingly, any time-period specified in a declaration by a Contracting State as regards Alternative B should be expressed to commence not earlier than the time the insolvency administrator or the debtor receives the creditor's request. Paragraph 6 of Alternative B does not specifically deal with the case where the insolvency administrator or the debtor agrees to cure all defaults and to perform all future obligations but fails to do so. In that situation there seems no reason why the court should not be able to exercise its powers under paragraph 6.

64. Paragraph 5 of Alternative B of Article X requires the creditor to provide evidence of its claims and proof that its international interest has been registered. There is no similar provision in Alternative A. This is because Alternative B, unlike Alternative A, involves an application to the court, and the evidence and proof are to be provided to the court. Again in contrast to Alternative A, the requirement to furnish proof that the international interest has been registered signified that the creditor cannot invoke the provisions of Alternative B without first registering its international interest. This is despite the fact that such registration is only one of the methods of preserving the effectiveness of the international interest on the debtor's insolvency, the other being its effectiveness under the applicable law (Article 30(2)). The latter is not sufficient to enable the creditor to invoke the provisions of Alternative B. Paragraph 6 of Alternative B provides that if the insolvency administrator does not give notice in conformity with paragraph 3 or fails to give the creditor the opportunity to take possession when the insolvency administrator has declared that it will do so, the court may permit the creditor to take possession upon such terms as the court may order and may require the taking of any additional step or the provision of any additional guarantee. So in the absence of a court order or consent of the debtor the creditor may not take possession. Paragraph 7 states that the agricultural, construction or mining equipment may not be sold pending the court's decision. It would seem that the creditor's ability to exercise other remedies is governed by the applicable insolvency law.

65. Alternative B is included in all three of the previous Protocols.

#### *Alternative C*

66. Alternative C is only featured in the Luxembourg Rail Protocol, and was designed to be a compromise between Alternatives A and B, and also better reflect the approach to insolvency in many Continental European countries. Alternative C follows Alternative A in requiring the insolvency administrator, within the specified period, to cure all defaults or give the creditor an opportunity to take possession. The only difference is that the period in question is labelled the "cure period" rather than the "waiting period", but they appear to mean the same thing except that the commencement date of the cure period is specified (see Alternative C, paragraph 15).

67. Alternative C differs from Alternative B in that it enables the insolvency administrator to apply to the court for an order suspending its obligation to give the creditor an opportunity to take possession of the agricultural, construction, or mining equipment for a period ("the suspended period") commencing with the end of the cure period and ending no later than the expiration of the agreement or any renewal of it, and on such terms as the court considers just (Alternative C, paragraph 3). So instead of having to leave the initiative to the creditor to apply for leave to repossess, the insolvency administrator can itself apply for a suspension order.

68. If a suspension order is sought it must be applied for during the cure period but it can be made either during the cure period or later. Any suspension must commence from the end of the

cure period and end no later than the expiration of the agreement or any renewal thereof (paragraph 4). Any such order must require that all sums accruing to the creditor during the suspension period be paid from the insolvency estate as they become due and that the insolvency administrator perform all other obligations arising during the suspension period (paragraph 4). So the creditor is entitled to receive payment of sums accruing during the suspension period ahead of other creditors in the insolvency – assuming, of course, that there are funds to do so – and to have other obligations arising during that period carried out.

69. While the court is not obliged to make an order for payment of sums accruing due prior to the commencement of the suspension period it has power to make an order for such payment, wholly or in part, as a term of suspending the insolvency administrator's duty to give the creditor an opportunity to take possession, and the sum ordered to be paid could be an amount payable under an acceleration clause. Indeed, there appears to be nothing to preclude the court from requiring all defaults (other than a default constituted by the opening of insolvency proceedings ) to be cured as a condition of suspending the creditor's right to possession.

70. Paragraph 14, unlike the Luxembourg Rail Protocol, does not contain a reference to a 'public service' article (Article XXV of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol), as the preliminary draft MAC Protocol does not contain a corresponding provision.



### **Article XI – Insolvency assistance**

1. *This Article applies only in a Contracting State which has made a declaration pursuant to Article XXVI(1).*
2. *The courts of a Contracting State in which agricultural, construction or mining equipment 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 X.*

#### **Comment**

71. Article XI is derived directly from Article X of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XII of the Aircraft Protocol. Paragraph 2 of Article XXII of the Space Protocol necessarily differs in its approach, as space assets are located in space and not situated in the territory of a State.

72. Article XI is an opt-in provision requiring a declaration under Article XXVI(1). It seems clear that the only relevant declaration in any particular case is a declaration by the Contracting State falling within paragraph 2, the assistance of whose courts is invoked. Where such a declaration is made, foreign courts and foreign insolvency administrators applying Article X are entitled to call for maximum co-operation on the part of the courts of the declaring State. This, of course, is in addition to any entitlement to co-operation they may have under other laws, for example from States that have adopted the UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-border Insolvency.

### Article XII - 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 agricultural, construction or mining equipment 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)(b) of the Convention 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)(a) of the Convention, 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 agricultural, construction or mining equipment.*

### Comment

73. The text of this article is identical to Article XI of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol, which is consistent with Article XXV of the Space Protocol, and Article XVI of the Aircraft Protocol (the Aircraft and Space Protocols contain additional language regarding buyers, as those Protocols apply to sales).

74. Article XII establishes a quiet possession regime which is based on transparency through use of the International Registry and is directly linked to the priority rule in Article 29(4); indeed, it can properly be regarded as itself a supplementary priority rule that can be varied by a subordination agreement between debtor and chargee registrable under Article 16(1)(e). It applies only where a debtor is not in default within the meaning of Article 11 of the Convention. Assuming no such default, a debtor is entitled to quiet possession, on the terms of the agreement, as against (a) its creditor, (b) the holder of any interest from which the debtor takes free under Article 29(4) of the Convention, and (c) any interest to which it would otherwise be subordinated where the holder of that interest agrees to the debtor's quiet possession.

75. Conversely, a debtor is not entitled to quiet possession as against the holder of any interest to which the debtor takes subject. Yet reflecting the principle of party autonomy, the foregoing rules may be varied by the agreement of the relevant parties. Where registrations are made reflecting these subordinations, third parties are bound thereby.

76. Article XII does not state which acts constitute a breach of the debtor's right to quiet possession once it is in possession. In the relations between the debtor and the creditor this is left to the agreement between them. Questions not dealt with by the agreement or arising in the relationship between the debtor and third parties are left to the applicable law. Seizure or attempted seizure of the agricultural, construction, or mining equipment by the creditor (in the absence of default) or by a lessor's chargee under a charge registered after registration of the lessor's interest would clearly be an infringement of the right to quiet possession. So too would seizure, absent a default, by a third party at the request or by the authority of the creditor or chargee, or arrest of the object by the third party for sums due to it from the creditor, or a taking of the object in execution of a judgment obtained by the third party against the creditor or chargee.

77. Quite independently of Article XII, the debtor may have remedies against the creditor for any interference with the debtor's possession which is a breach of the agreement under the applicable law.

### CHAPTER III

## REGISTRY PROVISIONS RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS IN AGRICULTURAL, CONSTRUCTION AND MINING EQUIPMENT

### Article XIII - The Supervisory Authority and the Registrar

1. *The Supervisory Authority shall be designated at, or pursuant to a resolution of, the Diplomatic Conference for the adoption of the draft Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Agricultural, Construction and Mining Equipment, provided that such Supervisory Authority is able and willing to act in such capacity.*
2. *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.*
3. *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.*
4. *The first Registrar of the International Registry shall be appointed 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.*

### Comment

78. The Cape Town Diplomatic Conference for the adoption of the Aircraft Protocol and the Berlin Diplomatic Conference for the adoption of the Space Protocol both identified existing international bodies which were invited to become Supervisory Authorities for the International Registries for those respective Protocols. The Luxembourg Diplomatic Conference for the adoption of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol instead resolved to establish a new international body to act as Supervisory Authority for the International Registry under the Luxembourg Rail Protocol.

79. Resolution No. 2 of the Cape Town Diplomatic Conference invited the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) to accept the functions of Supervisory Authority for aircraft objects. Resolution No. 2 of the Berlin Diplomatic Conference invited the governing bodies of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) to consider the matter of becoming Supervisory Authority upon or after entry into force of the Protocol.

80. Article XIII is adapted from Article XXVIII of the Space Protocol, which allows a degree of flexibility in designating a Supervisory Authority. Paragraphs 2 and 3 are identical in language and approach to Article XVII paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Aircraft Protocol. The preliminary draft MAC Protocol does not adopt the approach of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol in establishing a new international body.

**Article XIV – First regulations**

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

**Comment**

81. The regulations referred to in this article are those to govern the operation of the International Registry. Article XIV is consistent with the text of Article XVIII of the Aircraft Protocol and Article XXIX of the Space Protocol.

### **Article XV – Designated entry points**

1. *A Contracting State may at any time designate an entity or entities 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 of a right or interest under Article 40 of the Convention in either case arising under laws of another State. The various entry points shall be operated at least during working hours in their respective territories.*
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 notices of sale.*

#### **Comment**

82. Article XV implements for agricultural, construction and mining equipment Article 18(5) of the Convention. It is for each Contracting State to decide whether to designate an entity as the entry point for the transmission of registration information to the International Registry.

83. The effect of not requiring use of a designated entry point, or merely permitting its use, is that registrations can be made directly with the International Registry. It is open to a State to require use of a designated entry point for some classes of transactions only while leaving the registration of other classes within the Convention to be effected directly. It is not, of course, open to a State to prohibit direct registration of categories of transaction without allowing access to the designated entry point for such categories.

84. A Contracting State which designates an entity pursuant to this Article will be free to add such additional requirements (including the payment of fees) as it considers necessary for transmission of data to the International Registry, though in doing so it will need to have regard to Article 26 of the Convention. Contracting States providing national entry points are responsible for ensuring that these operate at least during working hours in their respective territories. Searches will be able to be made on-line from any point connected to the International Registry and are not made through a national entry point.

85. Use of the entry point may be made optional or compulsory except in the case of information required for registrations of notices of sale, for which use of the entry point cannot be made compulsory. This reflects the fact that such registrations cannot affect the rights of any person, or have any other effects, under the Convention or Protocol (Article XVIII). Further, an entry point may not be designated for registration of a notice of a national interest, or of a non-consensual right or interest, arising under the laws of another State. Subject to this, an entry point may be designated for any kind of registration, whether of an international or prospective international interest, a notice of a national interest, or a registrable non-consensual right or interest, arising under the law of the State designating the entry point, an assignment or prospective assignment, a subordination, or an amendment or discharge of a registration.

86. The registration will take effect as provided by Article 19 of the Convention; receipt of information at the national entry point is not sufficient. Similarly, the fact that a registration made via an entry point does not qualify for national registration under national law is irrelevant under the Convention. An interest is a valid interest if it complies with the Convention's substantive requirements. Its priority is established when it is registered with the International Registry.

87. It was decided at the first Study Group meeting that the preliminary draft MAC Protocol should allow the designation of entry points, as this would make it easier for countries with national personal property registries to ratify/accede to the MAC Protocol (e.g. Spain).

88. Article XV is largely based on Article XIII of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol. However, the Luxembourg Rail Protocol includes additional language clarifying that the designation of an entry point by a Contracting State is done by declaration, whereas the Aircraft and Space Protocols do not contain such a clarification. The Study Group decided not to include the clarification, in conformity with the Aircraft and Space Protocols. However, the Official Commentaries to the Aircraft Protocol (comment 5.84) and the Space Protocol (comment 5.115) note that a declaration is still required (the Official Commentaries provide “it is for each Contracting State to decide whether to make a declaration designating an entity as the entry point...”).

89. The Luxembourg Rail Protocol approach slightly modified the approach in Article XIX of the Aircraft Protocol by including the final sentence of paragraph 1, dealing with operational hours of the national entry points, which the Aircraft Protocol deals with in Article XX(4). The preliminary draft MAC Protocol follows the approach of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol, with the relevant sentence located in Article XV, paragraph 1.

**Article XVI – Identification of agricultural, construction or mining equipment for registration purposes**

*A description of agricultural, construction or mining equipment that contains its manufacturer's serial number and the name of the manufacturer, as supplemented to ensure uniqueness is necessary and sufficient to identify the object for the purposes of Article 18(1)(a) of the Convention. The supplementary information required for the identification of the object shall be specified by the regulations.*

**Comment**

90. This Article specifies two elements as necessary to satisfy the requirements of the Convention and preliminary draft MAC Protocol as to the identifiability of an agricultural, construction or mining object for registration. If either of those elements is lacking then an interest in agricultural, construction or mining equipment cannot be registered in the International Registry. The manufacturer's serial number is chosen as the key identifier because of its permanence and its ability to uniquely identify an agricultural, construction or mining object. The second element is the name of the manufacturer which ensures further uniqueness of the object covered by the registration.

### **Article XVII – Additional modifications to Registry provisions**

1. *For the purposes of Article 19(6) of the Convention, the search criteria for agricultural, construction or mining equipment shall be the name of its manufacturer and its manufacturer's serial number, supplemented as necessary to ensure uniqueness. Such supplementary information shall be specified in the regulations.*
2. *For the purposes of Article 25(2) of the Convention and in the circumstances there described, the holder of a registered prospective international interest or a registered prospective assignment of an international interest shall take such steps as are within its power to procure the discharge of the registration no later than ten calendar 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.*
5. *The Registrar shall be liable under Article 28(1) of the Convention for loss caused up to an amount not exceeding the value of the agricultural, construction or mining equipment to which the loss relates. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, the liability of the Registrar shall not exceed 5 million Special Drawing Rights in any calendar year, or such greater amount, computed in such manner, as the Supervisory Authority may from time to time determine by regulations.*
6. *The preceding paragraph shall not limit the Registrar's liability for damages for loss caused by gross negligence or intentional misconduct of the Registrar and its officers and employees.*
7. *The amount of the insurance or financial guarantee referred to in Article 28(4) of the Convention shall be not less than the amount determined by the Supervisory Authority to be appropriate, having regard to the prospective liability of the Registrar.*
8. *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.*

### **Comment**

91. Paragraph 1 of this Article states, for the purposes of Article 19(6), the basic search criteria for an agricultural, construction or mining equipment object. Article 19(6) determines when an interest is "searchable", which, under Article 19(2) and (3), determines when it is valid. That, in turn, establishes priority for the purposes of Article 29 of the Convention. The search criteria are the name of its manufacturer and the manufacturer's serial number, as determined by Article XVI. These are the items of information which will generally suffice to ensure uniqueness, the essential requirement. However, to cover the possibility that this information will not be sufficient, as where the manufacturer assigns different kinds of serial number, additional criteria may be prescribed by the regulations.



92. Paragraph 2 gives greater precision to the phrase “without undue delay” in Article 25(2) of the Convention, specifying a period no later than ten calendar days after the receipt of the demand for the discharge. But the obligation to procure the discharge within this time is not a strict one; all that is required is that the holder of the prospective international interest or the person in whose favour a prospective assignment is registered takes such steps as are within its power. This 10 calendar day approach follows the approach of the Rail and Space Protocols, as opposed to 5 working days as provided in the Aircraft Protocol.

93. Paragraph 3 is based upon the Aircraft and Space Protocols provision for the recovery of costs for the International Registry and the Supervisory Authority. Alternatively, the Luxembourg Rail Protocol deals with this in a separate article. The Supervisory Authority is required to set and may from time to time amend fees. The basis of the fees is cost recovery. The International Registry is a not for-profit operation. In setting the fees the Supervisory Authority is entitled to charge for reasonable setting-up costs – which will thus be recouped over a period rather than falling on the State’s Parties to the Convention and the MAC Protocol– and the reasonable costs of establishing, operating and regulating the International Registry and of supervising the Registrar and performing other functions of the Supervisory Authority. Such costs may obviously include provision for servicing of equipment, repair and replacement and maintenance of the system as a state-of-the-art registration system. But the Supervisory Authority is not entitled to fix fees on the basis of a profit to either the Registrar or itself.

94. Paragraph 4 provides that the International Registry is required to provide its registration and search facilities on a 24-hour basis, and the intention of the provision is that the facility should be available seven days a week throughout the year, though it may be necessary from time to time to close the Registry for limited periods for maintenance, repair, upgrading of systems, technical security and the like, though obviously the Registry will seek to keep disruption to the service to a minimum. Paragraph 4 diverges from the Aircraft Protocol approach, and instead adopts the Luxembourg Rail Protocol approach by moving the second sentence (“various entry points shall be operated at least during working hours in their respective territories”) to Paragraph 1 of Article XIV (Designated entry points).

95. Paragraph 5 sets two limits on the Registrar’s liability. First, the liability for loss caused cannot exceed the value of agricultural, construction or mining equipment to which the loss relates. Second, the Registrar’s total liability cannot exceed five million Special Drawing Rights in any one calendar year or such greater amount, computed in such a manner, as the Supervisory Authority may from time to time determine by regulations. Special Drawing Rights are units of account established by the International Monetary Fund and calculated in terms of a basket of major currencies. The limit in relation to SDRs is an overall annual limit, not a limit per event, and raises the question whether, in the case of two or more claims in the same calendar year, they are to be dealt with on a first in time basis, which would mean that no one claim in a calendar year could be paid until all other claims in the same calendar year had been established and quantified. It is open to the Supervisory Authority to fix a higher overall limit and prescribe the manner in which that is to be calculated. It is important to note that the limit of 5 million is significantly lower than the liability of the Aircraft Protocol, which sets the liability of the International Registry at the maximum value of an aircraft object.

96. Paragraph 6 provides that the liability cap will not apply for loss caused by gross negligence or intentional misconduct of the Registrar and its officers and employees.

97. Paragraphs 7 and 8 of this Article deal with insurance of the Registrar against liability. Paragraph 7 is based on the Luxembourg Rail Protocol approach, which provides that the insurance or guarantee shall be determined by the Supervisory Authority, having regard to the prospective liability of the Registrar. The Space Protocol provides that the insurance or guarantee shall cover the

Registrar's liability as provided for in the Regulations. The Aircraft Protocol does not have a corresponding provision addressing this issue. Paragraph 7 provides that the amount of the insurance or financial guarantee to be procured by the Registrar is to be not less than the amount determined by the Supervisory Authority to be appropriate, having regard to the Registrar's prospective liability. The Registrar is entitled to obtain cover for a greater amount that may also, under paragraph 8, cover events for which it is not liable under Article 28 of the Convention.

98. Paragraph 8 is identical to paragraph 6 of the Aircraft Protocol, paragraph 8 of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and paragraph 7 of the Space Protocol of the corresponding article.

### **Article XVIII – Notices of Sale**

*The regulations shall authorise the registration in the International Registry of notices of sale of agricultural, construction or mining equipment. The provisions of this Chapter and of Chapter V of the Convention shall, in so far as relevant, apply to these registrations. However, any such registration and any search made or certificate issued in respect of a notice of sale shall be for the purposes of information only and shall not affect the rights of any person, or have any other effect, under the Convention or this Protocol.*

#### **Comment**

99. Article XVIII adopts the approach of Article XVII of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol which, though allowing registration of notices of sale, provides that any such registration and any search made or certificate issued is to be for information purposes only and is not to have effect under the Convention or Protocol. By contrast, under the Aircraft Protocol and Space Protocol, parties to a sale of an aircraft or space object may register the sale and secure the benefit of the priority provision of the Convention. Under the preliminary draft MAC Protocol, the sole purpose of the registration facility is to give notice of the sale transaction with a view to securing a priority under national law. It is, of course, for the applicable law to determine whether a voluntary registration in the International Registry has any significance in the application of its priority rules. Article XVIII does not provide for the registration of notice of a prospective sale; such registration would be pointless because it is extremely unlikely that it would be capable of producing any effects under national law.

## CHAPTER IV

### JURISDICTION

#### Article XIX – 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 agricultural, construction or mining equipment 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 agricultural, construction or mining equipment as specified in Article V(1) of this Protocol.*

#### Comment

100. Article XIX is consistent with Article XXII of the Aircraft Protocol, Article XVIII of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XXXIII of the Space Protocol.

101. The reason for this Article is that agricultural, construction or mining equipment may be owned or controlled by States or State entities, and while under the law of many States it is considered an aspect of State sovereignty that a State can waive its immunity, this is not universally true. This Article makes it clear that a waiver of immunity is binding, though only where it is in writing that describes the agricultural, construction or mining equipment object. The waiver may relate to immunity from jurisdiction, enforcement or both. The instrument of waiver should make clear its extent. The general rule of international law, which is not affected by this Article, is that waiver of immunity from suit does not by itself constitute waiver of immunity from enforcement. Though Article XIX(2) says that the waiver must contain a description of the agricultural, construction or mining equipment, what is meant is not necessarily the waiver clause itself but the instrument of waiver, which will usually be the agreement containing the waiver clause.

## CHAPTER V

### RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER CONVENTIONS

#### Article XX – Relationship with the UNIDROIT Convention on International Financial Leasing

*The Convention as applied to agricultural, construction or mining equipment shall supersede the UNIDROIT Convention on International Financial Leasing in respect of the subject matter of this Protocol, as between States Parties to both Conventions.*

#### Comment

102. Article XX is consistent with the drafting in Article XXV of the Aircraft Protocol, Article XIX of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XXXIV of the Space Protocol.

103. The UNIDROIT Leasing Convention provides for the rights of parties involved in an international financing leasing transaction, including the lessor, the lessee and the supplier. The effect of Article XX is that as between two Contracting States which are Parties both to the Leasing Convention and the Cape Town Convention the latter supersedes the former in its entirety, not merely in cases of inconsistency.

## CHAPTER VI

### FINAL PROVISIONS

#### Article XXI – Signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession

1. *This Protocol shall be open for signature in \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ by States participating in the Diplomatic Conference to Adopt a Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Agricultural, Construction or Mining Equipment held at \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. After \_\_\_\_\_, 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 XXIII.*
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.*

#### Comment

104. Article XXI is consistent with Article XXVI of the Aircraft Protocol, Article XXII of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XXXVI of the Space Protocol.

105. A State may not become a Party to the MAC Protocol without also becoming a Party to the Convention, which requires not only that the State is a Contracting State but that the Convention has entered into force for that State (*Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties 1969, Article 2(1)(g)*).

### **Article XXII - 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.*

#### **Comment**

106. Article XXII is consistent with Article XXVII of the Aircraft Protocol, Article XXI of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XXXVII of the Space Protocol.

107. This Article enables a Regional Economic Integration Organisation established by sovereign States and having competence over matters within the scope of the Protocol to adhere to the Protocol as if it were a Contracting State. For the corresponding provision in the Convention, see Article 48.

### Article XXIII - Entry into force

1. *This Protocol enters into force between the States which have deposited instruments referred to in sub-paragraph (a) on the later of:*

*(a) the first day of the month following the expiration of three months after the date of the deposit of the fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, and*

*(b) the date of the deposit by the Secretariat with the Depositary of a certificate confirming that the International Registry is fully operational.*

2. *For other States this Protocol enters into force on the first day of the month following the later of:*

*(a) the expiration of three months after the date of the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession; and*

*(b) the date referred to in sub-paragraph (b) of the preceding paragraph.*

### Comment

108. Article XXIII is consistent with Article XXVIII of the Aircraft Protocol, Article XXIII of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XXXVIII of the Space Protocol.

109. Paragraph 1 deals with entry into force as regards the five States whose ratification/accession brings the MAC Protocol into force. Paragraph 2 deals with States adhering to the Protocol thereafter. Subparagraph (b) of paragraph 1 is designed to ensure that the Protocol cannot come into force until the International Registry is operational. The Convention does not come into force as regards agricultural, construction and mining equipment until the MAC Protocol has been brought into force.

110. The reference to the "Secretariat" in subparagraph (b) of paragraph 1 is based upon Article XXIII (1)(b) of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol. The "Secretariat" is nominated in Article XII (6) of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol, which does not have a corresponding provision in the preliminary draft MAC Protocol. As such, the preliminary draft MAC Protocol could be amended to possibly nominate either the Supervisory Authority or the Registrar as the entity charged with the responsibility of depositing the certificate confirming the International Registry is fully operational.



### Article XXIV - 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 declarations are to be notified to the Depositary and 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.*

### Comment

111. The text of paragraphs 1 – 4 is consistent with Article XXIX in the Aircraft Protocol, Article XXIV of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XXXIX of the Space Protocol, however, it omits paragraph 6 of the Space Protocol from this article, as consistent with the Aircraft and Luxembourg Rail Protocols. Sub-paragraph 5(c) is consistent with the Luxembourg Rail Protocol.

112. This Article applies to the preliminary draft MAC Protocol the same provisions as apply to the Convention under Article 52. The reference to “administrative authorities”, which was carried over in error to the Convention by Article 52(5)(c), denotes the authorities concerned with the enforcement of the remedy of export and physical transfer referred to in Articles VIII(1) and X, Alternative A, paragraph 8. Article XXIV(1) does not apply to the extent that the law in relation to the matters dealt with in the Protocol is the same in all territorial units, whether because they have adopted uniform laws or because the law is federal law.

### Article XXV - Transitional Provisions

*In relation to agricultural, construction and mining equipment Article 60 of the Convention shall be modified as follows:*

*(a) in paragraph 2(a), after "situated" insert "at the time the right or interest is created or arises";*

*(b) replace paragraph 3 with the following:*

*"3. A Contracting State may in its declaration under paragraph 1 specify a date, not earlier than three years and not later than ten years after the date on which the declaration becomes effective, when Articles 29, 35 and 36 of this Convention as modified or supplemented by the Protocol will become applicable, to the extent and in the manner specified in the declaration, to pre-existing rights or interests arising under an agreement made at a time when the debtor was situated in that State. Any priority of the right or interest under the law of that State, so far as applicable, shall continue if the right or interest is registered in the International Registry before the expiration of the period specified in the declaration, whether or not any other right or interest has previously been registered."*

#### Comment

113. The drafting of this article is identical to Article XXVI of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol. Article XL of the Space Protocol adopts a different approach to amending Article 60, which takes into account issues unique to the Space Protocol (such as the enforcement of default remedies in a space asset which is physically linked to another space asset which is also subject to a separate international interest). The Aircraft Protocol has no transitional provisions, as it was drafted simultaneously with the Cape Town Convention itself and the drafting oversights were not identified at that time.

114. Paragraph 1 of Article 60 of the Convention sets out the general principle that unless otherwise declared by a Contracting State, the Convention does not apply to a pre-existing right or interest, which retains its priority under the applicable law. Any such declaration is controlled by the provisions of Article 60(3).

115. Article XXV amends Article 60 to make explicit various points that are implicit in that Article in its unamended form. Article XXV does not change the substantive effect of Article 60. The amendments to Article 60(3) contain express provisions dealing with various points which under the original text had to be arrived at by a purposive interpretation.

116. The Convention comes into force as regards agricultural, construction and mining equipment on the date of coming into force of the MAC Protocol (see Article XXIII). Article 60(2)(a) of the Convention is amended by Article XXV of the present Protocol to make it clear that a right or interest will be a pre-existing right or interest if the debtor is not situated in a Contracting State at the time when the right or interest is created or provided for, even if the debtor later moves to a Contracting State and thereby establishes the effective date of the Convention for that debtor.

117. Subject to the effect of a declaration under Article 60, a pre-existing right or interest is outside the scope of the Convention and Protocol for all purposes. Where a pre-existing interest is assigned after the effective date of the Convention, the assignee stands in the position of the assignor, no new interest is created and the interest assigned remains a pre-existing interest and thus outside the scope of the Convention unless covered by a declaration under Article 60.

### **Article XXVI - 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 either or both of Articles VI and XI 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 IX of this Protocol, wholly or in part. If it so declares, it shall specify the time-period required by Article IX(2).*
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, B or C of Article X and, if so, shall specify the types of insolvency proceeding, if any, to which it will apply Alternative A, B or C. A Contracting State making a declaration pursuant to this paragraph shall specify the time-period required by Article X.*
4. *The courts of Contracting States shall apply Article X in conformity with the declaration made by the Contracting State which is the primary insolvency jurisdiction.*

### **Comment**

118. Article XXVI is consistent with Article XXVIII of the Aircraft Protocol, Article XXIII of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XXXVIII of the Space Protocol.

119. Declarations relating to Articles VI (choice of law), VIII (modification of default remedies provisions), IX (modification of provisions regarding relief pending final determination), X (remedies on insolvency) and XXII (regional economic integration organisations) are opt-in declarations; there are no opt-out declarations.

120. A Contracting State making a declaration under paragraph 3 must apply the entirety of the selected Alternative; it cannot combine elements of one Alternative with elements of another. It may, however, select different Alternatives for different insolvency procedures. Paragraph 3 requires a Contracting State to specify “the types of insolvency proceeding” to which it will apply Alternative A, Alternative B or Alternative C. However, the intention is to cover both forms of insolvency-related event referred to in Article I(2)(g) and the second of these deals with the case where the creditor cannot pursue insolvency proceedings. Accordingly, paragraph 3 should be interpreted as enabling a Contracting State to specify the types of insolvency proceeding or other insolvency-related event to which Alternative A, Alternative B or Alternative C is to apply.

121. Paragraph 3 also requires that the declaration state the time-period required by Article X within which the debtor or the insolvency administrator has to give possession or cure all defaults and agree to perform all future obligations (Alternatives A and C) or to give notice whether it will do so (Alternative B). Whereas under Alternatives A and C of Article X the duty arises automatically upon the occurrence of an insolvency-related event under Alternative B it arises only on request by the creditor. Accordingly, any time-period specified by a declaration in relation to Alternative B should be expressed to commence no earlier than the date of receipt of the creditor’s request by the insolvency administrator or the debtor.

122. Paragraph 4 requires Contracting States to apply Article X in conformity with the declaration made by the Contracting State which is the primary insolvency jurisdiction, defined in Article I(2)(i). So if there are secondary insolvency proceedings in another Contracting State relating to agricultural, construction or mining equipment situated in that State, the courts of that State must apply the version of Article X selected by a declaration of the Contracting State of primary jurisdiction.

### **Article XXVII - Declarations under the Convention**

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

#### **Comment**

123. Article XXVII is consistent with Article XXXI of the Aircraft Protocol, Article XXIX of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XLII of the Space Protocol (noting that Article XLII of the Space Protocol does not reference Article 60, as Article XL of the Space Protocol disapplies Article 60).

124. This Article is not strictly necessary but has the merit of making it clear that declarations under the Convention relating to specified provisions apply to any modification of those provisions by the MAC Protocol.

125. Article XXIX in the Luxembourg Rail Protocol appears after the article governing “Reservations and Declarations”, whereas in the Aircraft and Space Protocols it appears directly before it. The preliminary draft MAC Protocol adopted the approach in the Aircraft and Space Protocols.

### **Article XXVIII - Reservations and declarations**

1. *No reservations may be made to this Protocol but declarations authorised by Articles II, VII, XXIV, XXVI, XXVII and XXXIX 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.*

#### **Comment**

126. A reservation differs from a declaration in that it is a unilateral act by a Contracting State purporting to exclude or modify a Treaty provision (Article 2(1)(d) of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties), and, unless authorised by the Treaty, is not binding on other States unless they accept it (Article 20 of the Vienna Convention), whereas a declaration applying or excluding a provision of the Convention is authorised by the Convention itself and requires no acceptance.

127. No reservation is permitted under the preliminary draft MAC Protocol, although declarations are authorised by the Articles listed in paragraph 1.

128. This Article does not state when a declaration takes effect. International treaty practice provides that a declaration notified to the Depositary prior to or upon entry into force of the Protocol for the declaring State takes effect simultaneously with such entry into force.

### **Article XXIX - Subsequent declarations**

1. *A State Party may make a subsequent declaration, other than a declaration made in accordance with Article XXVII 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.*

### **Comment**

129. A State which has made a declaration may make a subsequent declaration supplementing, replacing or modifying the earlier declaration but not so as to affect rights and interests arising prior to the effective date of the subsequent declaration. This qualification is necessary to ensure the certainty of acquired legal rights.

130. Paragraph 2 provides that subsequent declarations will become effective on the first day of the month six months after the declaration has been notified to the Depositary.

### **Article XXX - Withdrawal of declarations**

1. *Any State Party having made a declaration under this Protocol, other than a declaration made in accordance with Article XXVII 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 of declaration.*

#### **Comment**

131. Article XXX provides the rules governing the withdrawal of declarations under the Protocol. It is substantively consistent with Article XXXIV of the Aircraft Protocol, Article XXXI of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XLV of the Space Protocol (noting that Article XLII of the Space Protocol does not reference Article 60, as Article XL of the Space Protocol disapplies Article 60).

132. Article XXXII (Reservations and Declarations) of the Aircraft Protocol allows for the making of a declaration under Article XXXIV (Withdrawal of declarations), whereas the Rail and Space Protocols do not allow for the making of declarations under their corresponding “withdrawal of declarations” articles. Article XXX is consistent with the approach of Article XXXI of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XLV of the Space Protocol, as it is understood that the withdrawal of a declaration does not constitute the making of a new declaration.

### **Article XXXI - 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.*
4. *A subsequent declaration made by a State Party under Article II declaring that the Protocol does not apply to one or more Annexes, shall be considered a denunciation of the Protocol in relation to that Annex.*

### **Comment**

133. Article XXXI, paragraphs 1 – 3 is consistent with Article XXXV of the Aircraft Protocol, Article XXXII of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XLV of the Space Protocol.

134. By denouncing the Convention a State Party to the Protocol communicates its withdrawal from the Protocol. This takes effect 12 months after receipt of the denunciation by the Depositary but does not affect rights and interests arising prior to that time. It is open to a Contracting State which is Party to the MAC Protocol and other Protocols to the Cape Town Convention to denounce the MAC Protocol while continuing to adhere to the others. A Contracting State which is party only to the present Protocol and denounces it without denouncing the Convention remains bound only by those final provisions of the Convention which are operative independently of the MAC Protocol.

135. Paragraph 4 is a wholly new provision inserted on recommendation by the Study Group. Paragraph 4 provides that a subsequent declaration from a State that disapplies the Protocol to a certain category of equipment under an Annex to the Protocol is, in effect, a denunciation of the Protocol in relation to those categories of equipment that the State subsequently opts out of.



**Article XXXII - 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 the 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;*
  - (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;*
  - (d) *whether any modifications to this Protocol or the arrangements relating to the International Registry are desirable; and*
  - (e) *whether any changes to the Harmonized System have affected the Harmonized System codes listed in the Annexes, or whether new codes have emerged under the Harmonized System that may warrant inclusion in the Annexes.*
3. *Any amendment to this Protocol other than the Annexes 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 Parties which have ratified, accepted or approved such amendment when it has been ratified, accepted or approved by five States Parties in accordance with the provisions of Article XXIII relating to its entry into force.*
4. *If the report referenced in paragraph 1 identifies additional agricultural, construction or mining equipment that is materially similar to equipment that falls under existing Harmonised System codes contained in the Annexes, the Depositary may add or retain the Harmonised System codes covering such additional equipment to the Annexes. The Depositary shall notify States Parties of a revision to the Annexes under this paragraph. Any such revision shall become effective six months after its notification to the States Parties. If within three months after its notification to the States Parties a majority of the States Parties notify the Depositary of their objection, the revision shall not become effective. The Depositary shall immediately notify all States Parties of the date that a revision pursuant to this paragraph enters into force.*
5. *If the report referred to in paragraph 1 concludes that technical changes to the Harmonized System have affected the numbering of the Harmonized System codes listed in the Annexes without expanding their scope, the Depositary may revise the Harmonized System codes contained in the Annexes to ensure conformity with the Harmonized System. The Depositary shall specify the date as of which such a revision shall apply. The Depositary shall notify States Parties of a revision to the Annexes and the date at which the revision shall become effective.*

6. *Any revision to the Annexes shall not affect rights and interests arising prior to the date the revision becomes effective or applicable.*

### **Comment**

136. Article XXXII sets out the machinery for keeping the MAC Protocol under review and providing an efficient mechanism to revise the Protocol in the light of evolving practices or problems identified in its interpretation. The basic objective of these processes is to ensure that the Protocol remains effective in facilitating asset-based financing and leasing.

137. The primary responsibility in the first instance lies with the Depositary, which must take into account reports of the Supervisory Authority and must act in consultation with the Supervisory Authority when convening a Review Conference. This can be done only if requested by at least 25 per cent of the States Parties. Paragraphs 1-3 of Article XXXII (aside from subparagraph 2(e)) are consistent with Article XXXVI of the Aircraft Protocol, Article XXXIII of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XLVII of the Space Protocol.

138. However, the preliminary draft MAC Protocol contains additional provisions to address amendments to the Annexes to the Protocol, located in paragraphs 4 – 6. Article XXXII establishes three amendment procedures for the preliminary draft MAC Protocol.

139. Firstly, paragraph 3 provides the amendment procedure for the Protocol itself, which is consistent with the amendment procedure established for the other three Protocols. Under the current drafting, the paragraph 3 process cannot be used to amend the Annexes to the Protocol. This is an issue which the Committee of Governmental Experts might wish to give additional consideration.

140. Secondly, paragraph 4 creates a process for adding new Harmonized System codes to the Annexes to the Protocol which cover materially similar types of agricultural, construction and mining equipment that are covered by the existing Harmonized System codes in the Annexes. This approach allows for the Secretariat, acting as Depositary, to add to the Annexes HS codes related to emerging technologies that should logically fall within the scope of the preliminary draft MAC Protocol, without the need for a full Review Conference process. However, if majority of States Parties consider the addition of new HS codes to be inappropriate, the amendment to the Annexes will not be effective. This mechanism is based upon Article 24 of the *1999 Montreal Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules for International Carriage by Air*.

141. Thirdly, paragraph 5 creates a process for changing the Annexes to the Protocol to realign the codes in the Annexes with changes to the Harmonized System which may occur due to the periodic reviews to the Harmonized System, which occur approximately every five years. In the event of a revision to the Harmonized System, the Depositary will consult with the World Customs Organization to determine whether the HS codes listed in the Annexes to the Protocol are affected by the revision. Upon determination by the World Customs Organization that any HS codes in the Annexes affected by the changes to the Harmonized System itself have not had their scope materially altered, the Depositary may make the requisite changes to the Annexes under paragraph 5. The process in paragraph 5 would only be used to realign the Annexes with the revised Harmonized System, and would not be used as a mechanism to expand the scope of the Protocol.

142. Paragraph 6 ensures that any existing international interest in MAC equipment covered by an HS code that is subsequently deleted, changed or otherwise affected by an amendment process (under either paragraphs 4 or 5) will not be affected by the subsequent changes to the HS code.

143. 'States Parties', for the purposes of the amendment process for adding or retaining HS codes in a particular Annex to the Protocol, would mean a States Parties to that Annex. This understanding ensures that only States Parties that have acceded to an Annex would be able to make decisions in relation to amendments to that Annex. The Study Group considered whether an explicit provision should be added to Article XXXII to address this issue. No such provision is currently contained in the preliminary draft MAC Protocol.

### Article XXXIII – 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 the deposit of the certificate referred to in Article XXIII(1)(b);*
    - (iii) *the date of entry into force of this Protocol;*
    - (iv) *each declaration made in accordance with this Protocol, together with the date thereof;*
    - (v) *the withdrawal or amendment of any declaration, together with the date thereof; and*
    - (vi) *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 \_\_\_\_\_, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, in a single original in the English and French languages, both texts being equally authentic, such authenticity to take effect upon verification by the Secretariat of the Conference under the authority of the President of the Conference within ninety days hereof as to the consistency of the texts with one another.*

#### Comment

144. Article XXXIII is consistent with Article XXXVII of the Aircraft Protocol, Article XXXIV of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and Article XLVIII of the Space Protocol.

145. Paragraph 1 designates UNIDROIT as the Depositary for the MAC Protocol.

146. Paragraph 2(a)-(c) lists the specific responsibilities of the Depositary, which are quite onerous in view of the number and diversity of declarations which the MAC Protocol provides for. Before accepting the deposit of any instrument the Depositary has to be satisfied that it is accompanied by the mandatory declaration under Article VII. Paragraph 2(d) requires the Depositary to perform “such other functions [as are] customary for depositaries”. These include keeping custody of the original text of the MAC Protocol, receiving signatures to the Protocol, examining each signature and instrument to ensure it is in proper form and in accordance with the Protocol, and registering the Protocol with the Secretariat of the United Nations upon its coming into force (Article 77(1) Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties).

**Comment on the Annexes to the preliminary draft Protocol**

147. The Annexes to the preliminary draft MAC Protocol list the HS codes that cover the types of agricultural, construction and mining equipment which fall within the scope of the Protocol. The listing of the HS codes covering equipment from the different industries (agriculture, construction and mining) in different Annexes allows Contracting States to apply the Protocol to equipment used in only one or two of the agriculture, construction and mining industries if they so wish.

148. There are 36 HS codes listed in the Annexes to the preliminary draft MAC Protocol (20 in Annex 1, 28 in Annex 2 and 17 in Annex 3). The HS codes currently listed in Annexes 1, 2 and 3 are consistent with the preliminary list agreed to at the fourth Study Group meeting and categorised by the Study Group in April 2016. Certain HS codes are listed in more than one Annex, because equipment covered by that HS code is used in more than one of the three relevant industries (for example, an HS code might cover excavators that are used in both construction and mining and thus would be listed in both Annexes 2 and 3 respectively).

149. The Study Group also confirmed that in the event that a Contracting State opts out of a particular Annex of equipment (agriculture, construction or mining), where a type of equipment is included on that Annex and another Annex, the type of equipment would continue to be covered by the Protocol in that Contracting State, regardless of its final use.

150. The process for amending the Annexes is set out in Article XXXII(4) – (5).

151. The current codes are based upon the fifth edition of the Harmonized System, which entered into force in 2012.

## ANNEXES TO THE PROTOCOL

### ANNEX 1 – AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT

1. As consistent with Article II, the Convention shall apply in relation to agricultural equipment that falls under the following Harmonised System codes in this Annex.

842481: Mechanical appliances (whether or not hand-operated) for projecting, dispersing, or spraying liquids or powders; fire extinguishers, whether or not charged; spray guns and similar appliances; steam or sand blasting machines and similar jet projecting machines – Other appliances -- Agricultural or Horticultural

842911: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers -- Bulldozers and angledozers -- -- Track laying

842919: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers -- Bulldozers and angledozers -- Other

842920: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers -- Graders and levelers

842930: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers – Scrapers

842951: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers -- Mechanical shovels, excavators and shovel loaders -- Front-end shovel loaders

842952: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers -- Mechanical shovels, excavators and shovel loaders -- Machinery with a 360° degrees revolving superstructure

842959: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers -- Mechanical shovels, excavators and shovel loaders – Other

843049: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers -- Other boring or sinking machinery – Other

843050: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers – Other machinery, self-propelled

843210: Agricultural, horticultural or forestry machinery for soil preparation or cultivation; lawn or sports-ground rollers – Plows

843221: Agricultural, horticultural or forestry machinery for soil preparation or cultivation; lawn or sports-ground rollers - Harrows, scarifiers, cultivators, weeders and hoes – Disc harrows

843230: Agricultural, horticultural or forestry machinery for soil preparation or cultivation; lawn or sports-ground rollers - Seeders, planters and transplanters

843240: Agricultural, horticultural or forestry machinery for soil preparation or cultivation; lawn or sports-ground rollers – Manure Spreaders and fertilizer distributors

843340: Harvesting or Threshing Machinery, including Straw or Fodder Balers; Grass or Hay Mowers; Machines for Cleaning, Sorting or Grading Eggs, Fruit or other Agricultural Produce; Other than Machinery of Heading 8437 – Straw or Fodder Balers

843351: Harvesting or Threshing Machinery, including Straw or Fodder Balers; Grass or Hay Mowers; Machines for Cleaning, Sorting or Grading Eggs, Fruit or other Agricultural Produce; Other than Machinery of Heading 8437 – Combine Harvester or Thresher

843680: Other agricultural, horticultural, forestry, poultry-keeping or bee-keeping machinery, including germination plant fitted with mechanical or thermal equipment, poultry incubators and brooders -- Other machinery

870130: Tractors (other than tractors of heading 8709) – Track-laying tractors

870190: Tractors (other than tractors of heading 8709) – Other

871620: Trailers and semi-trailers; other vehicles, not mechanically propelled; parts thereof -- Self-loading or self-unloading trailers and semi-trailers for agricultural purposes

## ANNEX 2 – CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT

1. As consistent with Article II, the Convention shall apply in relation to construction equipment that falls under the following Harmonised System codes in this Annex.

820713: Interchangeable tools for hand tools, whether or not power-operated, or for machine tools (for example, for pressing, stamping, punching, tapping, threading, drilling, boring, broaching, milling, turning or screw driving), including dies for drawing or extruding metal, and rock drilling or earth boring tools -- Rock drilling or earth boring tools, and parts thereof --With working part of cermets

842641: Ships' derricks; cranes, including cable cranes; mobile lifting frames, straddle carriers and works trucks fitted with a crane - Other machinery, self-propelled -- On tires

842649: Ships' derricks; cranes, including cable cranes; mobile lifting frames, straddle carriers and works trucks fitted with a crane - Other machinery, self-propelled – Other

842911: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers -- Bulldozers and angledozers -- Track laying

842919: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers -- Bulldozers and angledozers -- Other

842920: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers -- Graders and levelers

842930: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers – Scrapers

842951: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers --Mechanical shovels, excavators and shovel loaders -- Front-end shovel loaders

842952: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers --Mechanical shovels, excavators and shovel loaders -- Machinery with a 360° degrees revolving superstructure

842959: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers --Mechanical shovels, excavators and shovel loaders – Other

843010: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers - Pile-drivers and pile-extractors

843031: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers -- Coal or rock cutters and tunneling machinery – Self-propelled



843039: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers -- Coal or rock cutters and tunneling machinery – Other

843041: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers -- Other boring or sinking machinery – Self-propelled

843049: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers -- Other boring or sinking machinery – Other

843050: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers – Other machinery, self-propelled

843061: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers – Other machinery, not self-propelled – Tamping on compacting machinery

843069: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers – Other machinery, not self-propelled – Other

847431: Machinery for sorting, screening, separating, washing, crushing, grinding, mixing or kneading earth, stone, ores or other mineral substances, in solid (including powder or paste) form; machinery for agglomerating, shaping or moulding solid mineral fuels, ceramic paste, unhardened cements, plastering materials or other mineral products in powder or paste form; machines for forming foundry moulds of sand -- Mixing or kneading machines -- Concrete or mortar mixers

847432: Machinery for sorting, screening, separating, washing, crushing, grinding, mixing or kneading earth, stone, ores or other mineral substances, in solid (including powder or paste) form; machinery for agglomerating, shaping or moulding solid mineral fuels, ceramic paste, unhardened cements, plastering materials or other mineral products in powder or paste form; machines for forming foundry moulds of sand -- Mixing or kneading machines -- Machines for mixing mineral substances with bitumen

847982: Machines and mechanical appliances having individual functions, not specified or included elsewhere in this Chapter -- Other machines and mechanical appliances -- Mixing, kneading, crushing, grinding, screening, sifting, homogenizing, emulsifying or stirring machines.

847910: Machines and mechanical appliances having individual functions, not specified or included elsewhere in this Chapter -- Machinery for public works, building or the like

870130: Tractors (other than tractors of heading 8709) – Track-laying tractors

870190: Tractors (other than tractors of heading 8709) – Other

870410: Motor vehicles for the transport of goods -- Dumpers designed for off-highway use

870510: Special purpose motor vehicles, other than those principally designed for the transport of persons or goods (for example, breakdown lorries, crane lorries, fire fighting vehicles, concrete-mixer lorries, road sweeper lorries, spraying lorries, mobile workshops, mobile radiological units) – Crane lorries

870540: Special purpose motor vehicles, other than those principally designed for the transport of persons or goods (for example, breakdown lorries, crane lorries, fire fighting vehicles, concrete-mixer lorries, road sweeper lorries, spraying lorries, mobile workshops, mobile radiological units) – Concrete-mixer lorries

871620: Trailers and semi-trailers; other vehicles, not mechanically propelled; parts thereof -- Self-loading or self-unloading trailers and semi-trailers for agricultural purposes

**ANNEX 3 – MINING EQUIPMENT**

1. As consistent with Article II, the Convention shall apply in relation to mining equipment that falls under the following Harmonised System codes in this Annex.

820713: Interchangeable tools for hand tools, whether or not power-operated, or for machine tools (for example, for pressing, stamping, punching, tapping, threading, drilling, boring, broaching, milling, turning or screw driving), including dies for drawing or extruding metal, and rock drilling or earth boring tools -- Rock drilling or earth boring tools, and parts thereof --With working part of cermets

842911 - Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers -- Bulldozers and angledozers -- Track laying

842919: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers -- Bulldozers and angledozers -- Other

842952: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers --Mechanical shovels, excavators and shovel loaders -- Machinery with a 360° degrees revolving superstructure

842959: Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers, mechanical shovels, excavators, shovel loaders, tamping machines and road rollers --Mechanical shovels, excavators and shovel loaders – Other

843010 : Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers - Pile-drivers and pile-extractors

843031: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers -- Coal or rock cutters and tunneling machinery – Self-propelled

843039: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers -- Coal or rock cutters and tunneling machinery – Other

843049: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers -- Other boring or sinking machinery – Other

843050: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers – Other machinery, self-propelled

843061: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers – Other machinery, not self-propelled – Tamping on compacting machinery

847431: Machinery for sorting, screening, separating, washing, crushing, grinding, mixing or kneading earth, stone, ores or other mineral substances, in solid (including powder or paste) form; machinery for agglomerating, shaping or moulding solid mineral fuels, ceramic paste, unhardened cements, plastering materials or other mineral products in powder or paste form; machines for forming foundry moulds of sand -- Mixing or kneading machines -- Concrete or mortar mixers

870130: Tractors (other than tractors of heading 8709) – Track-laying tractors

843041: Other moving, grading, levelling, scraping, excavating, tamping, compacting, extracting or boring machinery, for earth, minerals or ores; pile-drivers and pile-excavators; snow ploughs and snow-blowers -- Other boring or sinking machinery – Self-propelled

870190: Tractors (other than tractors of heading 8709) – Other

870410: Motor vehicles for the transport of goods -- Dumpers designed for off-highway use

871620: Trailers and semi-trailers; other vehicles, not mechanically propelled; parts thereof -- Self-loading or self-unloading trailers and semi-trailers for agricultural purposes

**APPENDIX I****GLOSSARY****UNIDROIT INSTRUMENTS**

Aircraft Protocol	Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Aircraft Equipment (2001)
Cape Town Convention <i>or</i> CTC	Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment (2001)
Luxembourg Rail Protocol	Luxembourg Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Railway Rolling Stock (2007)
MAC Protocol	Future Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters Specific to Agricultural, Construction and Mining Equipment (incomplete)
Space Protocol	Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Space Assets (2009)
UNIDROIT Leasing Convention	UNIDROIT Convention on International Financial Leasing (1988)
UNIDROIT Principles <i>or</i> UPICC	UNIDROIT Principles of International Commercial Contracts (editions issued 1994, 2004, 2010, 2016)

**OTHER INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS**

HS System	Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System
Montreal Convention	Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules for International Carriage by Air (1999)
Vienna Convention	Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969)

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS**

ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
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UNCITRAL	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
UNIDROIT	International Institute for the Unification of Private Law
WCO	World Customs Organization