FINAL ACT

of the Diplomatic Conference to Adopt a Mobile Equipment Convention and an Aircraft Protocol held under the joint auspices of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law and the International Civil Aviation Organization at Cape Town from 29 October to 16 November 2001

RELATING TO THE CONSOLIDATED TEXT OF THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS IN MOBILE EQUIPMENT AND THE PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS IN MOBILE EQUIPMENT ON MATTERS SPECIFIC TO AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT

MINDFUL of the objectives of the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and the Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Aircraft Equipment;

DESIROUS of facilitating the application and implementation of the Convention and the Protocol;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT Article 6, paragraph 1 of the Convention, which states that the Convention and the Protocol shall be read and interpreted together as a single instrument;

HAVING AGREED to entrust the Joint Secretariat of the Conference, namely the Secretariats of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) and of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), with the drawing up of a consolidated text to facilitate the implementation of the rules contained in the Convention and the Protocol in a user-friendly manner;

THE CONFERENCE:

HEREBY TAKES NOTE OF the Consolidated Text of the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and the Protocol thereto on Matters specific to Aircraft Equipment as set out in the Attachment to this Resolution.

RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY AND THE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRY FOR AIRCRAFT OBJECTS

THE CONFERENCE,

HAVING ADOPTED the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and the Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Aircraft Equipment;

HAVING REGARD to Article XVII, paragraph 1 of the Protocol;

CONSCIOUS of the need to undertake preparatory work regarding the establishment of the International Registry in order to ensure that it is operational by the time the Convention and the Protocol enter into force:

CONSIDERING that the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), following a recommendation made by the 31st Session of its Legal Committee, decided during its 161st Session to accept, in principle, the role of Supervisory Authority of the International Registry for the purpose of the Protocol, and to defer further decisions on this matter until after the Diplomatic Conference;

RESOLVES:

TO INVITE ICAO to accept the functions of Supervisory Authority upon the entry into force of the Convention and the Protocol;

TO INVITE ICAO to establish a Commission of Experts consisting of not more than 15 members appointed by the ICAO Council from among persons nominated by the Signatory and Contracting States to the Convention and to the Protocol, having the necessary qualifications and experience, with the task of assisting the Supervisory Authority, upon the entry into force of the Convention and the Protocol;

TO SET UP, pending the entry into force of the Convention and the Protocol, a Preparatory Commission to act with full authority as Provisional Supervisory Authority for the establishment of the International Registry, under the guidance and supervision of the ICAO Council. Such Preparatory Commission shall be composed of persons, having the necessary qualifications and experience, nominated by the following States: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Cuba, Egypt, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Kenya, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Senegal, Singapore, Switzerland, South Africa, Tonga, United Arab Emirates, and United States.

TO DIRECT the Preparatory Commission to carry out, under the guidance and supervision of the ICAO Council, the following functions:

- (1) to ensure that the international registration system be set up, in accordance with an objective, transparent and fair selection process, and that it become ready to be operated with a target date of one year from the adoption of the Convention and the Protocol, and at the latest by the time of the entry into force of the Convention and the Protocol;
- (2) to ensure the necessary liaison and co-ordination with private industry which will be users of the International Registry; and

(3) to work on such other matters relating to the International Registry as may be required with a view to ensuring the establishment of the International Registry.

TO URGE the States participating in the Conference and interested private parties to make available, at the earliest possible date, the necessary start-up funding on a voluntary basis for the tasks of the Preparatory Commission and of ICAO, required under the two preceding resolving clauses, and to entrust ICAO with the task of administering such funds.

PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 2(3)(b) AND (c) OF THE CONVENTION

THE CONFERENCE,

HAVING ADOPTED, in Article 2(3)(b) and (c) of the Convention, provisions contemplating the adoption of Protocols on Matters specific to Railway Rolling Stock and Space Assets;

CONSIDERING that such Protocols will be applied together with the terms of the Convention and are expected also to include analogous provisions to those contained in the Aircraft Protocol;

CONSIDERING that considerable progress has already been made in relation to the development of such Protocols and such progress has been welcomed by the Conference;

CONSIDERING that the completion of such Protocols is to be expected to confer significant benefits on the international community as a whole, in particular for developing States; and

CONSIDERING IT DESIRABLE to involve as wide a range of States as possible in the process for the adoption of such Protocols and to keep the costs of such adoption to a reasonable minimum;

RESOLVES:

TO INVITE the negotiating States to work towards expeditious adoption of the draft Protocols under preparation in respect of those objects falling within Article 2(3)(b) and (c);

TO INVITE the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) to use its good offices to facilitate such objective;

TO INVITE UNIDROIT to give all Member States of UNIDROIT and Member States of the United Nations which are not members of UNIDROIT an opportunity to participate in the negotiation and adoption of such Protocols in a cost-effective manner; and

TO INVITE the competent bodies of UNIDROIT to consider favourably the implementation of an expedited procedure for the adoption of such Protocols, and in particular to consider the diplomatic Conference required for their adoption being as short as possible consistently with the need for States to give such Protocol proper consideration.

RELATING TO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION AND THE USE OF THE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRY

THE CONFERENCE,

MINDFUL of the objectives of the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and the Protocol to the Convention on Matters specific to Aircraft Equipment;

DESIROUS of facilitating the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol as well as the prompt implementation and use of the International Registry;

RESOLVES:

TO ENCOURAGE all negotiating States, international Organisations, as well as private parties, such as the aviation and financial industries, to assist the developing negotiating States in any appropriate way, including facilities and know-how necessary to use the International Registry, so as to allow them to benefit from the Convention and the Protocol as early as possible.

RELATING TO THE OFFICIAL COMMENTARY ON THE CONVENTION AND AIRCRAFT PROTOCOL

THE CONFERENCE,

HAVING ADOPTED the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and the Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Aircraft Equipment;

CONSCIOUS of the need for an official commentary on these texts as an aid for those called upon to work with these documents;

RECOGNISING the increasing use of commentaries of this type in the context of modern, technical commercial law instruments; and

MINDFUL that the Explanatory Report and Commentary (DCME-IP/2) provides a sound starting point for the further development of this official commentary;

RESOLVES:

TO REQUEST the preparation of a draft official commentary on these texts by the Chairman of the Drafting Committee, in close co-operation with the ICAO and UNIDROIT Secretariats, and in co-ordination with the Chairman of the Commission of the Whole, the Chairman of the Final Clauses Committee and interested members of the Drafting Committee and observers that participated in its work;

TO REQUEST that such draft be circulated by the two Secretariats to all negotiating States and participating observers as soon as practicable after the conclusion of the Conference inviting comments thereon; and

TO REQUEST that a revised final version of the official commentary be transmitted by the two Secretariats to all negotiating States and participating observers as soon as practicable after the conclusion of the Conference.