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

ARTICLE 16

1. If a Contracting Party finds that the regulations or practices on aviation safety maintained by the other Contracting Party in areas relating to aeronautical facilities, flight crew, aircraft and the operations of aircraft are not likely to conform to the international standards designated as Annexes to the Convention (hereinafter referred to as "the International Standards"), the first Contracting Party may request consultation with the other Contracting Party. Such consultation shall take place within a period of thirty days from the date of receipt of that request. If, following such consultation, the other Contracting Party confirms that its regulations or practices on aviation safety do not conform to the International Standards, it shall take steps considered necessary to conform its regulations or practices to the International Standards. The first Contracting Party may advise the Secretary General of the International Civil Aviation Organization, if the first Contracting Party finds that the other Contracting Party fails to take steps considered necessary to conform its regulations or practices to the International Standards within a reasonable period.

2. The competent authorities of either Contracting Party may search aircraft engaged in the agreed services operated by the designated airlines of the other Contracting Party, in its territory except during flight, and without causing the operation of the aircraft unreasonable delay, to verify the validity of the relevant aircraft documentation, the licensing of its crew, and that the aircraft equipment and condition of aircraft conform to the International Standards.

ARTICLE 17

It is the intention of both Contracting Parties that there should be regular and frequent consultation between the aeronautical authorities of the Contracting Parties to ensure close collaboration in all matters affecting the fulfilment of the present Agreement.

ARTICLE 18

1. If any dispute arises between the Contracting Parties relating to the interpretation or application of the present Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall in the first place endeavour to settle it by negotiation between themselves.

2. If the Contracting Parties fail to reach a settlement by negotiation, the dispute may, at the request of either Contracting Party, be submitted for decision to a tribunal of three arbitrators, one to be named by each Contracting Party and the third to be agreed upon by the two arbitrators so chosen, provided that such third arbitrator shall not be a national of either Contracting Party. Each of the Contracting Parties shall designate an arbitrator within a period of sixty days from the date of receipt by either Contracting Party from the other Contracting Party of a diplomatic note requesting arbitration of the dispute and the third arbitrator shall be agreed upon within a further period of sixty days. If either of the Contracting Parties fails to designate its own arbitrator within the period of sixty days or if the third arbitrator is not agreed upon within the period indicated, the President of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization may be requested by either Contracting Party to appoint an arbitrator or arbitrators.

3. The Contracting Parties undertake to comply with any decision given under paragraph 2 of this Article.

ARTICLE 19

1. Either Contracting Party may at any time request consultation with the other Contracting Party for the purpose of amending the present Agreement. Such consultation shall begin within a period of sixty days from the date of receipt of such request.

2. If the amendment relates to the provisions of the present Agreement other than those of the Annex, the amendment shall be approved by each Contracting Party in accordance with its constitutional procedures and shall enter into force on the date of exchange of diplomatic notes indicating such approval.

3. If the amendment relates only to the Annex, the consultation shall be between the aeronautical authorities of both Contracting Parties. When these authorities agree on a new or revised Annex, the agreed amendments on the matter shall enter into force after they have been confirmed by exchange of diplomatic notes.