

**Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at  
Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, Supplementary  
to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts  
Against the Safety of Civil Aviation, Done at Montreal on 23  
September 1971**

Done: Montreal February 24, 1988

Opened For Signature: In accordance with Article IV, the Protocol was opened for signature at Montreal on 24 February 1988 by States participating in the International Conference on Air Law held at Montreal from 9 to 24 February 1988. After 1 March 1988, the Protocol was opened to all States for signature in London, Moscow, Washington and Montreal until entry into force of the Protocol.

Entry into Force: August 6, 1989

In accordance with Article VI, paragraph 1, as soon as ten of the signatory States deposited their instruments of ratification of the Protocol, it entered into force between them thirty days after the date of the deposit of the tenth instrument of ratification. The Protocol enters into force for each State which deposits its instrument of ratification after that date on the thirtieth day after deposit of its instrument of ratification. In accordance with Article VII, the Protocol shall, after it has entered into force, be open for accession by any non-signatory State. Any State which is not a Contracting State to the Convention of 23 September 1971 may accede to the Protocol if at the same time it ratifies or accedes to the Convention in accordance with Article 15 thereof. Instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Depositaries [International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Russia, UK and USA] and accession shall take effect on the thirtieth day after the deposit.

This status list reflects only signatures of the Protocol at Montreal until 1 March 1988 and subsequent actions at Washington.

**Legend:**(no mark) = ratification; **a**= accession; **d**= succession; **c** = acceptance; **p** = approval; **h**=adherence

Participant	Signature	Consent to be Bound		Notes
Albania		April 29, 2002	<b>a</b>	
Algeria		December 13, 1995	<b>a</b>	
Andorra		May 22, 2006	<b>a</b>	1
Argentina	February 24, 1988	February 12, 1992		
Austria	July 5, 1989	December 28, 1989		
Belarus	February 24, 1988			2
Belize		June 10, 1998	<b>a</b>	
Bosnia and Herzegovina		August 15, 1994	<b>d</b>	3
Brazil	February 24, 1988			
Bulgaria	February 24, 1988			
Burkina Faso		December 8, 1998	<b>a</b>	4
Burma		May 24, 1996	<b>a</b>	

Participant	Signature	Consent to be Bound		Notes
Burundi		February 11, 1999	a	
Cabo Verde		September 12, 2002	a	5
Canada	February 24, 1988			
Chile	February 24, 1988			
China, People's Republic of	February 24, 1988			6
Congo, Democratic Republic of	February 24, 1988			
Costa Rica	February 24, 1988			
Cote d'Ivoire		April 13, 2012		7
Croatia		June 12, 1993	d	8
Czech Republic			d	9
Denmark	February 24, 1988			
Dominica		July 26, 2005	a	
Egypt	February 24, 1988			
Estonia		December 22, 1993	a	
Ethiopia	February 24, 1988			
Finland		April 3, 1998		10
Gambia		June 16, 2000	a	
Germany	February 24, 1988	April 25, 1994		11
Ghana	February 24, 1988			
Guatemala		October 11, 1994	a	
Honduras		January 20, 2004	a	
Hungary	February 24, 1988			
Iceland	February 24, 1988			
Indonesia	February 24, 1988			
Israel	February 24, 1988			
Italy	February 24, 1988			
Jamaica	February 24, 1988			
Korea, Republic of	February 24, 1988			
Kuwait	February 24, 1988			
Laos		October 7, 2002	a	
Lebanon	February 24, 1988			
Liberia	February 24, 1988			
Luxembourg	May 18, 1989	November 14, 2003		
Malawi	February 24, 1988			

Participant	Signature	Consent to be Bound		Notes
Malaysia	February 24, 1988			
Mauritius	June 28, 1989	August 17, 1989		
Mexico	February 24, 1988			
Micronesia		March 19, 2003	a	
Morocco		February 15, 2002		13
Mozambique		January 16, 2003	a	
Namibia		November 4, 2005	a	
Netherlands		July 12, 1995		14
Nicaragua		April 25, 2002	a	
Niger	February 24, 1988			
Niue		September 30, 2009	a	
North Macedonia		January 4, 1995	d	12
Norway	February 24, 1988			
Pakistan	February 24, 1988			
Panama		April 10, 1996	a	
Peru	February 24, 1988			
Philippines	January 25, 1989			
Poland	February 24, 1988			
Portugal	February 24, 1988			
Qatar		June 17, 2003	a	
Romania	February 24, 1988			
Russia	February 24, 1988			15
Saudi Arabia	February 24, 1988			
Senegal	February 24, 1988			
Slovak Republic			d	16
Slovenia		August 20, 1992	d	17
Spain		May 8, 1991		18
Sudan		May 15, 2000	a	
Sweden	February 24, 1988			
Switzerland	February 24, 1988			
Tajikistan		February 29, 1996	a	
Togo		February 9, 1990		19
Turkey	February 24, 1988			
Turkmenistan		June 4, 1999	a	

Participant	Signature	Consent to be Bound		Notes
Ukraine	February 24, 1988			20
United Arab Emirates	February 24, 1988	March 9, 1989		
United Kingdom				21
United States	February 24, 1988	October 19, 1994		
Venezuela	February 24, 1988			

## NOTES

- <sup>1</sup> The instrument of accession to the Protocol by Andorra includes a declaration, an unofficial English translation of which reads as follows:  
“At the time of its accession to the . . . Protocol, Andorra, while possessing heliports and several helisurfaces, has no airport or airfield in its territory, and no aircraft is registered in its records.”
- <sup>2</sup> The Protocol was signed by the former Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic.
- <sup>3</sup> Date of receipt of notification of succession to the Protocol by Bosnia and Herzegovina; the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia signed the Protocol on February 24, 1988 and deposited an instrument of ratification at London December 21, 1989.
- <sup>4</sup> Burkina Faso deposited an “instrument of ratification” which was deemed to constitute accession by Burkina Faso to the Protocol.
- <sup>5</sup> Cabo Verde deposited “letters of ratification” which were deemed to constitute accession by Cape Verde to the Protocol.
- <sup>6</sup> The Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China addressed a note to the Secretary of State, dated June 12, 1997, a translation of which reads as follows:  
“Your Excellency,  
“In accordance with the Joint Declaration of the Government of the People’s Republic of China and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the Question of Hong Kong signed on 19 December 1984, the People’s Republic of China will resume the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong with effect from 1 July 1997. Hong Kong will, with effect from that date, become a Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China and will enjoy a high degree of autonomy, except in foreign and defense affairs which are the responsibilities of the Central People’s Government of the People’s Republic of China.  
“It is provided both in Section XI of Annex I to the Joint Declaration, “Elaboration by the Government of the People’s Republic of China of its Basic Policies Regarding Hong Kong”, and Article 153 of the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China, which was adopted on 4 April 1990 by the National People’s Congress of the People’s Republic of China, that international agreements to which the People’s Republic of China is not a party but which are implemented in Hong Kong may continue to be implemented in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.  
“In accordance with the above provisions, I am instructed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China to make the following notification:  
“The Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation done at Montreal on 24 February 1988 (hereinafter referred to as the “Protocol”), which applies to Hong Kong at present, will continue to apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region with effect from July 1997.  
“Within the above ambit, responsibility for the international rights and obligations of a party to the Protocol will be assumed by the Government of the People’s Republic of China.  
“It would be appreciated if the contents of this Note could be placed formally on record and brought to the attention of the other Parties to the Protocol.  
“Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.”  
The Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China addressed a note to the Secretary of State, dated September 19, 2002, which reads as follows:  
“Dear Mr. Secretary,  
“On behalf of the Government of the People’s Republic of China, I wish to inform you of the following,  
“Pursuant to Article 138 of the Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China, the application to the Macao Special Administrative Region of international agreements to which the People’s Republic of China is a member or becomes a party shall be decided by the Central People’s Government in accordance with the circumstances and needs of the Region and after seeking the views of the government of the Region.  
“Having sought the views of the government of the Macao Special Administrative Region, the Government of the People’s Republic of China has decided that the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation of 24 February 1988 is applicable to the Macao

Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China.

"I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my highest consideration."

- <sup>7</sup> Côte d'Ivoire signed the Protocol at Montreal March 21, 1988.
- <sup>8</sup> Notification of succession to the Protocol by Croatia is effective October 8, 1991, the date on which Croatia severed all constitutional and legal connections with the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia; the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia signed the Protocol on February 24, 1988 and deposited an instrument of ratification at London December 21, 1989.
- <sup>9</sup> The former Czechoslovakia signed the Protocol on February 24, 1988 and deposited an instrument of ratification at Montreal on March 19, 1990. By a notification to ICAO, dated March 8, 1993, the Czech Republic succeeded to the Protocol with effect from January 1, 1993.
- <sup>10</sup> Finland signed the Protocol at Moscow November 16, 1988.
- <sup>11</sup> The former German Democratic Republic signed the Protocol on February 24, 1988 and deposited an instrument of ratification at Moscow January 31, 1989. The German Democratic Republic acceded to the Federal Republic of Germany on October 3, 1990.
- <sup>12</sup> Notification of succession to the Protocol by the Republic of Macedonia is effective September 8, 1991, the date on which the Republic of Macedonia declared itself a sovereign and independent state; the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia signed the Protocol on February 24, 1988 and deposited an instrument of ratification at London on December 21, 1989.
- <sup>13</sup> Morocco signed the Protocol at Montreal July 8, 1988.
- <sup>14</sup> The Netherlands signed the Protocol at Montreal April 13, 1988. The instrument of ratification of the Protocol by the Netherlands states that the Protocol is ratified for the Kingdom in Europe subject to the following reservation:  
"The Kingdom of the Netherlands will be bound by the obligation to exercise jurisdiction, as laid down in Article III of the Protocol, only after it has received and rejected a request for extradition from the contracting state on whose territory the offence was committed."  
By a letter dated September 9, 2010, and received on October 8, 2010, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands informed the Secretary of State that the Kingdom of the Netherlands, for the Kingdom in Europe, withdraws the aforementioned reservation.  
The Kingdom of the Netherlands deposited, on December 12, 2005 an instrument of ratification of the Protocol for Aruba subject to the following reservation:  
"The Kingdom of the Netherlands will be bound by the obligation to exercise jurisdiction, as laid down in Article III of the Protocol, only after it has received and rejected a request for extradition from the contracting state on whose territory the offence was committed."  
Accompanying the instrument of ratification was a diplomatic note from the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Washington which reconfirmed for Aruba the declaration made by the Kingdom of the Netherlands upon its signature of the Protocol at Montreal.  
The Royal Netherlands Embassy in Washington transmitted to the Department of State a diplomatic note, dated October 6, 2010, which reads in pertinent part as follows:  
"The Kingdom of the Netherlands currently consists of three parts: the Netherlands, the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba. The Netherlands Antilles consists of the islands of Curaçao, Sint Maarten, Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba.  
"With effect from 10 October 2010, the Netherlands Antilles will cease to exist as a part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. From that date onwards, the Kingdom will consist of four parts: the Netherlands, Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten. Curaçao and Sint Maarten will enjoy internal self-government within the Kingdom, as Aruba and, up to 10 October 2010, the Netherlands Antilles do.  
"These changes constitute a modification of the internal constitutional relations within the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The Kingdom of the Netherlands will accordingly remain the subject of international law with which agreements are concluded. The modification of the structure of the Kingdom will therefore not affect the validity of the international agreements ratified by the Kingdom for the Netherlands Antilles; these agreements will continue to apply to Curaçao and Sint Maarten.  
"The other islands that have until now formed part of the Netherlands Antilles – Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and

Saba – will become part of the Netherlands, thus constituting ‘the Caribbean part of the Netherlands’.[\*] The agreements that now apply to the Netherlands Antilles will also continue to apply to these islands; however, the Government of the Netherlands will now be responsible for implementing these agreements.”

\* By diplomatic note from the Netherlands Embassy to ICAO, dated October 6, 2010, the Kingdom of the Netherlands extended the Protocol to the Caribbean part of the Netherlands (the islands of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba), with effect from October 10, 2010.

The Royal Netherlands Embassy in Washington transmitted to the Department of State a diplomatic note, dated October 12, 2011, which includes a status report concerning multilateral treaties deposited with the United States that quotes a declaration made by the Kingdom of the Netherlands upon its signature of the Protocol at Montreal, and confirmed by the Netherlands upon deposit of its instrument of ratification of the Protocol with ICAO on July 11, 1995, that reads as follows:

“The Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands hereby declares that, in the light of the preamble, it understands the provisions laid down in Article II and III of the Protocol to signify the following:

“- only those acts which, in view of the nature of the weapons used and the place where they are committed, cause or are likely to cause incidental loss of life or serious injury among the general public or users of international civil law aviation in particular, shall be classed as acts of violence within the meaning of the new paragraph 1 bis (a), as contained in Article II of the Protocol;

“- only those acts which, in view of the damage which they cause to buildings or aircraft at the airport or their disruption of the services provided by the airport, endanger or are likely to endanger the safe operation of the airport in relation to international civil aviation, shall be classed as acts of violence within the meaning of the new paragraph 1 bis (b), as contained in Article II of the Protocol.”

The status report indicates that the abovementioned declaration is confirmed for the Caribbean part of the Netherlands (the islands of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba) and that the declaration remains valid for the European part of the Netherlands and Aruba.

- <sup>15</sup> The former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics signed the Protocol on February 24, 1988. By a note dated January 13, 1992, the Russian Federation informed the United States Government that it “continues to perform the rights and fulfil the obligations following from the international agreements signed by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.”
- <sup>16</sup> The former Czechoslovakia signed the Protocol on February 24, 1988 and deposited an instrument of ratification at Montreal on March 19, 1990. By a notification to ICAO, dated February 16, 1995, the Slovak Republic succeeded to the Protocol with effect from January 1, 1993.
- <sup>17</sup> Date of receipt of notification of succession to the Protocol by Slovenia; the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia signed the Protocol on February 24, 1988 and deposited an instrument of ratification at London on December 21, 1989.
- <sup>18</sup> Spain signed the Protocol at Montreal March 2, 1989.
- <sup>19</sup> Togo signed the Protocol at Montreal October 24, 1988.
- <sup>20</sup> The Protocol was signed by the former Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.
- <sup>21</sup> The United Kingdom signed the Protocol at Montreal on October 26, 1988 and deposited an instrument of ratification at London on November 15, 1990.  
The British Ambassador to the United States of America addressed a note, dated June 11, 1997, to the Secretary of State which reads as follows:  
“I am instructed by Her Britannic Majesty’s Principal Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to refer to the Montreal Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports serving International Civil Aviation done at Montreal on 24 February 1988 (hereinafter referred to as the “Protocol”) which applies to Hong Kong at present.  
“I am also instructed to state that, in accordance with the Joint Declaration of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People’s Republic of China on the Question of Hong Kong signed on 19 December 1984, the Government of the United Kingdom will restore Hong Kong to the People’s Republic of China with effect from 1 July 1997. The Government of the United Kingdom will continue to have international responsibility for Hong Kong until that date. Therefore, from that date the Government of the United Kingdom will cease to be responsible for the international rights and obligations arising from the application of the Protocol to Hong Kong.

“I should be grateful if the contents of this Note could be placed formally on record and brought to the attention of the other Parties to the Protocol.

“I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.”