

BELIZE:

**CIVIL AVIATION (IDENTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION
MARKS) REGULATIONS, 2023**

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

1. Citation.
2. COCESNA Regulations to have the force of law.
3. Penalty.

BELIZE:

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT

No. 117 of 2023

REGULATIONS made by the minister responsible for Civil Aviation in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 4, 5, 8, 9, and 32 of the Civil Aviation Act, Chapter 239 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020, and all other powers thereunto him enabling.

(Gazetted 23rd October, 2023)

WHEREAS, Belize is a member of the Central American Organisation for the Control of Air Navigation Services (Corporacion Centroamerica de Servicios de Navegacion Aerea) (hereinafter referred to as “COCESNA”);

AND WHEREAS, COCESNA has made certain regulations for the control of civil aviation (hereinafter referred to as “the COCESNA Regulations”);

AND WHEREAS, in common with other countries in the region, it would be expedient for Belize to adopt the COCESNA Regulations with such modifications as may be necessary;

AND WHEREAS, the Regulations contains in the Schedule, hereto are based on the COCESNA Regulations, as amended to suit the conditions of Belize;

NOW THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred upon the Minister by sections 4, 5, 8, 9, and 32 of the Civil Aviation Act, the following Regulations are made.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the

Citation.

**CIVIL AVIATION (IDENTIFICATION AND
REGISTRATION MARKS) REGULATIONS, 2023.**

**COCESNA
Regulations to
have the force
of law.**

Penalty.

- 2.** The COCESNA Regulations, as modified, contained in the Schedule, shall have the force of law in Belize.
- 3.** Every person who contravenes these Regulations commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to the penalty provided in section 30 of the Act.



BELIZE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION

BCAR - 45

SCHEDULE
[regulation 2]

BCAR- 45 IDENTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION MARKS

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**BELIZE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION****BCAR - 45****BCAR 45.1 Applicability**

(a) This regulation prescribes the requirements for:

- (1) Identification of aircraft, aircraft engines and propellers.
- (2) Identification of certain replacement and modified parts produced for installation on type certificated products.
- (3) Nationality and registration marks.

BCAR 45.5 Definitions

When the following terms are used in this BCAR, they have the following meanings:

Aeroplane – A power-driven heavier-than-air aircraft, deriving its lift in flight chiefly from aerodynamic reactions on surfaces which remain fixed under given conditions of flight.

Aircraft – Any machine that can derive support in the atmosphere from the reactions of the air other than the reactions of the air against the earth's surface. (See Table 1, Classification of aircraft)

Airship – A power-driven lighter-than-air aircraft.

Balloon – A non-power-driven lighter-than-air aircraft.

BDCA – Belize Department of Civil Aviation.

Common mark – A mark assigned by the International Civil Aviation Organization to the common mark registering authority registering aircraft of an international operating agency on other than a national basis.

Note. — All aircraft of an international operating agency which are registered on other than a national basis will bear the same common mark.

Common mark registering authority – The authority maintaining the non-national register or, where appropriate, the part thereof, in which aircraft of an international operating agency are registered.

Fireproof material – A material capable of withstanding heat as well as or better than steel when the dimensions in both cases are appropriate for the specific purpose.

Glider – A non-power-driven heavier-than-air aircraft, deriving its lift in flight chiefly from aerodynamic reactions on surfaces which remain fixed under given conditions of flight.

Gyroplane – A heavier-than-air aircraft supported in flight by the reactions of the air on one or more rotors which rotate freely on substantially vertical axes.

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Heavier-than-air aircraft – Any aircraft deriving its lift in flight chiefly from aerodynamic forces.

Helicopter – A heavier-than-air aircraft supported in flight chiefly by the reactions of the air on one or more power-driven rotors on substantially vertical axes.

International operating agency – An agency of the kind contemplated in Article 77 of the Convention.

Lighter-than-air aircraft – Any aircraft supported chiefly by its buoyancy in the air.

Ornithopter – A heavier-than-air aircraft supported in flight chiefly by the reactions of the air on planes to which a flapping motion is imparted.

Owner – A person who has the legal or rightful title to something.

Remotely piloted aircraft (RPA) – An unmanned aircraft which is piloted from a remote pilot station.

Rotorcraft – A power-driven heavier-than-air aircraft supported in flight by the reactions of the air on one or more rotors.

State of Registry – The State on whose register the aircraft is entered.



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**BELIZE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION****BCAR - 45****IDENTIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT AND RELATED AERONAUTICAL PRODUCTS****BCAR 45.11 General**

- (a) Aircraft and aircraft engines: shall be identified from the time of their manufacture by means of a fireproof plate that has information specified in BCAR 45.13 by stamping, engraving or other approved method. The identification plate for aircraft shall be secured in such a manner that it will not likely be defaced or removed during normal service or lost or destroyed in an accident or other circumstance.
- (b) Except as provided in paragraph (e) of this BCAR, the aircraft identification plate shall be secured to the aircraft fuselage external surface so that it is legible to a person on the ground and shall be affixed near one of the aircraft entrance or adjacent to the empennage surface.
- (c) For aircraft engines, the identification plate shall be affixed at an accessible location in such a manner that it will not likely be lost or destroyed in an accident.
- (d) Propellers and propeller blades and hubs: it is required that these products be identified by means of a plate, stamping, engraving, etching, or other approved method specified in BCAR 45.13 and placed on a non-critical surface in such a way that it will not likely be damaged, defaced, lost or destroyed during an accident.
- (e) For manned free balloons: the identification plate prescribed in paragraph (a) of this BCAR shall be secured to the balloon envelope and shall be located, if practicable, where it is legible to the operator when the balloon is inflated. In addition, the basket and heater assembly shall be permanently and legibly marked with the manufacturer's name, part number (or equivalent) and serial number (or equivalent).
- (f) The provisions of this BCAR shall not apply to meteorological pilot balloons used exclusively for meteorological purposes or to unmanned free balloons without a payload.

BCAR 45.13 Identification Data

- (a) The identification required by BCAR 45.11 (a) and (b) shall include the following information:
 - (1) Manufacturer's name.
 - (2) Model designation.
 - (3) Manufacturer's serial number.
 - (4) Type Certificate number, if any.
 - (5) Production Certificate number, if any.
 - (6) For aircraft engines, the established rating.

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- (7) Any other information that the BDCA finds it appropriate to include.
- (b) Except as provided in paragraph (d) (1) of this BCAR, no person may remove, change, or add identification information required by paragraph (a) of this BCAR, on any aircraft, engine, propeller, propeller blade, propeller hub, without the approval of the BDCA.
- (c) Except as provided in paragraph (d) (2) of this BCAR, no person may remove or install any identification plate required by BCAR 45.11, without the approval of the BDCA.
- (d) Persons performing maintenance under the provisions of BCAR 43, may in accordance with the methods, techniques, and practices acceptable to the BDCA:
- (1) Remove, change, or place the identification information required by paragraph (a) of this BCAR on any aircraft, aircraft engine, propeller, propeller blade, or propeller hub; or
 - (2) Remove an identification plate required by BCAR 45.11 when necessary, during maintenance operations.
- (e) No person may install an identification plate removed in accordance with paragraph (d) (2) of this BCAR on any aircraft, aircraft engine, propeller, propeller blade, or propeller hub other than the one from which it was removed.

BCAR 45.14 Identification of Critical Components

- (a) Every part or component for which the Manufacturer or Manufacturer's standards have established a replacement time, inspection interval or related procedure is specified in the Airworthiness Limitations section of the Manufacturer's Maintenance Manual or Instructions for Continued Airworthiness shall be permanently and legibly marked with a part number (or equivalent) and a serial number (or equivalent) with its respective identification plate, issued by the respective Manufacturer.

BCAR 45.15 Replacement and Modification Parts

- (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this BCAR, all replacement or modification parts shall be permanently and legibly marked with:
- (1) The indication of the Manufacturer's codes used by the State of Manufacture, to identify the original parts in accordance with a manufacturing standard.
 - (2) The name, trademark and symbol of the holder of the Parts Manufacturer Approval.
 - (3) The part number and serial number.
 - (4) The name and model designation of each type-certificated product on which the part is eligible for installation.
- (b) If the BDCA finds that a part is too small or that it is otherwise impractical to mark a part with any of the

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information required by paragraph (a) of this BCAR, a tag attached to the part or its container shall include the information that could not be marked on the part. If the marking required by paragraph (a) (4) of this BCAR is so extensive that to mark it on a tag is impractical, the tag attached to the part of the container may refer to a specific readily available manual or catalog for part eligibility information.

BCAR 45.16 Identification Plate

- (a) All aircraft operated under the provisions of BCAR OPS 1 and OPS 3 shall carry an identification plate inscribed with at least its nationality or common mark and registration-mark. The plate shall be made of fireproof metal or other fireproof material of suitable physical properties.
- (b) The identification plate shall be secured to the aircraft in a prominent position near the main entrance or near to the Manufacturer's identification plates or:
 - (1) In the case of an unmanned free balloon, affixed conspicuously to the exterior of the payload and;
 - (2) In the case of a remotely piloted aircraft, secured in a prominent position near the main entrance or compartment or affixed conspicuously to the exterior of the aircraft if there is no main entrance or compartment.

NATIONALITY AND REGISTRATION MARKS**BCAR 45.21 General**

- (a) No person may operate a Belize registered aircraft unless that aircraft displays its nationality and registration marks in accordance with the requirements of this BCAR.
- (b) Unless otherwise authorized by the BDCA, no person may place on any Belize registered aircraft, or foreign registered aircraft being operated by Belize certificate holders, designs, writings, marks or symbols that modify or confuse the nationality and registration marks.
- (c) Aircraft nationality and registration marks shall:
 - (1) Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this BCAR, be painted on the aircraft or affixed by any other means ensuring a similar degree of permanence;
 - (2) Have no ornamentation;
 - (3) Contrast in color with the background;
 - (4) Be legible; and
 - (5) Be kept clean and visible at all times.

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- (d) The use of decals with high adhesive characteristics is acceptable.
- (e) The aircraft nationality and registration marks may be affixed to an aircraft with readily removable material if:
 - (1) It is intended for immediate delivery to a foreign purchaser;
 - (2) It is bearing temporary registration marks; or
 - (3) It is marked temporarily to meet the requirements of BCAR 45.29

BCAR 45.23 Composition of Nationality and Registration Marks**(a) General**

- (1) The nationality mark for aircraft registered in Belize is V3. The nationality mark is followed by a hyphen and a registration mark consisting of a combination of three (3) letters (e.g. V3-HAA). This will correspond to the individual registration of the aircraft. Request for a specific combination of characters for the registration marks may be approved by the BDCA.
- (2) The same registration marks shall never be assigned to more than one aircraft in service.
- (3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) above, the BDCA will not assign registration marks whose combination of letters may be confused with the five-letter combinations used in the International Code of Signals, Part II, the three-letter combinations beginning with Q used in the Q Code, nor with the distress signal SOS, or other international urgent signals, such as XXX, PAN and TTT.
- (4) The letters shall be capital letters in Roman characters and the numbers shall be Arabic numbers. Each character including the hyphen shall be of solid (bold) lines, without decorations or any ornamentation, of a single outline and of rectangular shape in a right angle of ninety degrees and with an inclination which shall be at no time of less than ninety degrees.

**BCAR 45.25 Location of Marks on Heavier-than-air aircraft.
(See Appendix A Table 1)****(a) The marks shall be displayed as follows:**

- (1) Fuselage: The marks shall appear either on each side of the fuselage (or equivalent structure) between the wings and the tail surface or on the upper halves of the vertical tail surfaces. When located on a single vertical tail surface, they shall appear on both sides. When located on multivertical tail surfaces, they shall appear on the outboard sides of the outer surfaces.
- (2) Wings: The marks shall appear once on the lower surface of the wing structure. They shall be located on the left half of the lower surface, unless they extend across the entire wing structure. As far as possible, the marks shall be located equidistant from the leading and trailing edges of the



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wings. The top of the letters and numbers shall be toward the leading edge of the wing.

- (b) **Special cases.** If a heavier-than-air aircraft does not possess parts corresponding to those mentioned in (a) (1) and (a) (2), the marks shall appear in a manner such that the aircraft can be identified readily.

BCAR 45.27 Location of Marks on Lighter-than-air aircraft.
(See Appendix A Table 1)

- (a) **Airships:** The marks shall appear, either on the hull or on the stabilizer surfaces.
- (1) Where the marks appear on the hull, they shall be located lengthwise on each side of the hull and on its upper surface on the line of symmetry or;
- (2) Where the marks appear on the stabilizer surfaces, they shall appear on the horizontal and on the vertical stabilizers; the marks on the horizontal stabilizer shall be located on the right half of the upper surface and on the left half of the lower surface, with the top of the letters and numbers toward the leading edge; the marks on the vertical stabilizer shall be located on each side of the bottom half stabilizer, with the letters and numbers placed horizontally.
- (b) **Spherical balloons** (other than unmanned free balloons). The marks shall appear in two places diametrically opposite. They shall be located near the maximum horizontal circumference of the balloon.
- (c) **Non-spherical balloons** (other than unmanned free balloons). The marks shall appear on each side. They shall be located near the maximum cross-section of the balloon immediately above either the rigging band or the points of attachment of the basket suspension cables.
- (d) **Lighter-than-air aircraft** (other than unmanned free balloons). The side marks shall be visible both from the sides and from the ground.
- (e) **Unmanned free balloons.** The marks shall appear on the identification plate (see BCAR 45.16).

BCAR 45.29 Size of the Nationality and Registration Marks

- (a) Each owner or operator shall display marks on the aircraft meeting the size requirements of this BCAR, according to the following:
- (b) Heavier-than-air aircraft:
- (1) **Wings.** The height of the marks on the wings of heavier-than-air aircraft shall be at least 50 centimetres.
- (2) **Fuselage (or equivalent structure) and vertical tail surfaces.** The height of the marks on the fuselage (or equivalent structure) and on the vertical tail surfaces of heavier-than-air aircraft shall be at least 30 centimetres.

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- (3) **Special cases.** If a heavier-than-air aircraft does not possess parts corresponding to those mentioned in (b) (1) and (b) (2) above, or if the parts are too small to accommodate the marks described therein, the measurements of the marks shall be determined by the BDCA, taking account of the need for the aircraft to be identified readily.
- (c) Lighter-than-air aircraft:
- (1) The height of the marks on lighter-than-air aircraft other than unmanned free balloons shall be at least 50 centimetres.
- (2) The measurements of the marks related to unmanned free balloons shall be determined by the BDCA, considering the size of the payload to which the identification plate is affixed.
- (3) **Special cases.** If a lighter-than-air aircraft does not possess parts of sufficient size to accommodate the marks described in (c) (1) and (c) (2) above, the measurements of the marks shall be determined by the BDCA considering the need for the aircraft to be identified readily.

BCAR 45.30 Type of Characters for the Nationality and Registration Marks

- (a) The width of each character (except the letter I and the number 1) and the length of hyphens shall be two-thirds of the height of a character.
- (b) The characters and hyphens shall be formed by solid lines and shall be of a colour contrasting clearly with the background. The thickness of the lines shall be one-sixth of the height of a character.
- (c) Each character shall be separated from that which it immediately precedes or follows, by a space of not less than one-quarter of a character width. A hyphen shall be regarded as a character for this purpose.

BCAR 45.31 Marking of Export Aircraft

- (a) Any person that re-exports a used aircraft, under the provisions of BCAR 45.33 may display on that aircraft the nationality and registration marks of the State where the aircraft will be registered. However, no person may operate an aircraft so marked within Belize, except for test and demonstration flights for a limited period of time approved by the BDCA or to complete the delivery flight through Belize to the country where the aircraft will be registered.

BCAR 45.33 Sale of Aircraft; Removal of Nationality and Registration Marks

- (a) If an aircraft registered in Belize is sold to a purchaser residing abroad, the holder of the Certificate of Registration should cancel the Belize registration in accordance with established procedures and should remove the nationality and registration marks of Belize.
- (b) Notwithstanding the latter, the BDCA may proceed with the official cancellation of the registration once

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the aircraft arrives at its destination.

BCAR 45.34 Certificate of Registration

- (a) No person may operate a civil aircraft that is eligible for registration unless it has been registered by its owner/operator under the provisions of this BCAR and the BDCA has issued a Certificate of Registration for that aircraft which shall be carried on board that aircraft for all operations.
- (b) The BDCA issues the Certificate of Registration on the prescribed form, which shall be in English language.
- (c) Such certificate shall contain the following information:
 - (1) BDCA logo
 - (2) Aircraft serial number.
 - (3) Manufacturer and Manufacturer's designation of aircraft.
 - (4) Owner and address.
 - (5) It is hereby certified that the above-described aircraft has been duly entered on the Belize Aircraft Registry in accordance with the Convention on International Civil Aviation dated December 7th, 1944, the Belize Civil Aviation Act and the Belize Civil Aviation Regulations.
 - (6) BDCA File Register No
 - (7) Date of issue.
 - (8) Name and signature of the authorizing officer
 - (9) BDCA stamp

BCAR 45.35 Registration Eligibility

- (a) An aircraft is eligible for registration if:
 - (1) It is owned by or leased to a citizen or citizens of Belize or corporations, or associations organized under the laws of Belize; and
 - (2) It is not registered under the laws of any foreign country.
- (b) Any special case, different from paragraph a), will be determined by the BDCA

**BELIZE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION****BCAR - 45****BCAR 45.37 Accuracy of Registry Information**

- (a) The holder of a certificate of registration shall notify the BDCA, as soon as practicable, of any change that affects the currency of any information contained in the certificate.
- (b) If a person has information that indicates an inaccuracy in the Belize register, that person shall notify the BDCA as soon as practicable.

BCAR 45.39 Transponder Codes

- (a) Any allocated and assigned 24-bit Mode S transponder address code shall be removed from coded aircraft equipment on the de-registration of aircraft from the Belize register except:
 - (1) When the aircraft is to make a flight or journey immediately following the deregistration; and
 - (2) The new State of registration has not allocated a new transponder code; and
 - (3) The BDCA is satisfied with the arrangements and that the appropriate aircraft logbook entries have been made specifying the removal of the transponder code following the agreed flight or journey.

BCAR 45.41 Application for Registration

- (a) A person who wishes to register an aircraft in Belize shall apply for aircraft registration on a prescribed form. Each application shall:
 - (1) Certify as to citizenship as defined in BCAR 45.35,
 - (2) Show evidence identifying ownership or lease agreement,
- (b) All applicable fees shall be paid upon application for registration.

BCAR 45.43 Registration and Grant of Certificate

- (a) An applicant is entitled to have an aircraft registered and is entitled to a certificate of registration if the BDCA is satisfied with the details of the application, and:
 - (1) the aircraft is not registered in any other country;
 - (2) the owner of the aircraft is a qualified person or entity under the provisions of BCAR 45.35; and
 - (3) the grant of the certificate is not contrary to the interests of aviation safety.
- (b) If the BDCA is satisfied that an applicant complies with the requirements of this BCAR, an appropriate entry shall be made on the Belize Aircraft Registry.

**BELIZE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION****BCAR - 45****BCAR 45.45 Reservation of Marks**

- (a) Subject to paragraphs 45.45 (b) and 45.45 (c), the BDCA shall reserve a registration mark for a period not exceeding 06 months:
- (1) at the request of a person who intends to register an aircraft in Belize; and
 - (2) on payment of any prescribed fee.
- (b) A registration mark shall not be reserved if it is in use as an aircraft registration mark.
- (c) The BDCA may refuse to reserve a registration mark if its use is considered to be undesirable.
- (d) A registration mark that has been reserved shall not, while reserved, be allocated to an aircraft as a registration mark otherwise than at the request of the person on whose request the registration mark was reserved.

BCAR 45.47 Change of Possession of Aircraft

- (a) If the holder of a certificate of registration ceases to be the owner of that aircraft, the certificate shall become invalid on the date the certificate holder ceases to have lawful entitlement or possession of the aircraft.
- (b) The certificate holder whose certificate becomes invalid in accordance with paragraph 45.47 (a) shall:
- (1) within 14 days after the date of such invalidation, notify the BDCA; and
 - (2) surrender to the BDCA the certificate of registration.

BCAR 45.49 Replacement of Certificate

- (a) The holder of a certificate of registration may apply for a replacement certificate if the certificate is:
- (1) lost, stolen, destroyed; or
 - (2) so damaged that particulars are no longer clearly legible.
- (b) On receiving an application, the BDCA may reissue the certificate:
- (1) On being satisfied that the application has been made by the person to whom the certificate was originally issued; and
 - (2) That the information supplied under paragraph 45.51 continues to be valid; and
 - (3) On a payment of any applicable fee.

**BELIZE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION****BCAR - 45****BCAR 45.51 Change of Registration Mark**

- (a) The holder of a certificate of registration may apply to the BDCA for a new registration mark to replace the mark allocated to the aircraft specified in the certificate.
- (b) The applicant for a change of registration mark shall apply in the prescribed form and submit to the BDCA:
 - (1) the original certificate of registration;
 - (2) the registration mark sought; and
 - (3) payment of the prescribed fee
- (c) On receiving an application, the BDCA, on being satisfied to the particulars derived under the provisions of BCAR 45.41, may make the appropriate amendments to the registry.
- (d) Upon allocation of a new registration mark, the BDCA shall issue to the registered owner a new certificate of registration.

BCAR 45.53 Cancellation of Registration

- (a) An aircraft remains registered:
 - (1) Until the certificate of registration is suspended or revoked; or
 - (2) The certificate ceases to be valid by virtue of paragraph 45.47.
- (b) The BDCA may revoke the certificate of registration for the aircraft:
 - (1) on receipt of a written request from the registered owner; or
 - (2) if the aircraft is destroyed, lost or stolen; or
 - (3) if the aircraft is permanently withdrawn from use; or
 - (4) if the owner of the aircraft has applied to register the aircraft in any other country; or
 - (5) it is in the interest of the public.



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Appendix A

Classification of aircraft

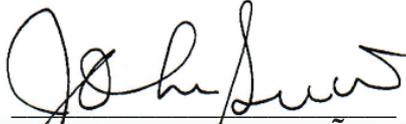
- (1) Aircraft shall be classified in accordance with Table 1
- (2) An aircraft which is intended to be operated with no pilot on board shall be further classified as unmanned
- (3) Unmanned aircraft shall include unmanned free balloons and remotely piloted aircraft

Table 1

AIRCRAFT	Lighter-than-air aircraft	Non-power-driven	Free balloon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spherical free balloon Non-spherical free balloon 		
			Captive balloon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spherical captive balloon Non-spherical captive balloon¹ 		
		Power-driven	Airship	Rigid airship	Rigid airship	
				Non-rigid airship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semi-rigid airship Non-rigid airship 	
	Heavier-than-air aircraft	Non-power-driven	Glider Kite ¹	Land glider	Land glider	
				Sea glider ²	Sea glider ²	
		Power-driven	Aeroplane	Landplane ³	Landplane ³	
				Seaplane ³	Seaplane ³	
			Rotorcraft	Gyroplane	Land gyroplane ³	Land gyroplane ³
					Sea gyroplane ³	Sea gyroplane ³
Helicopter	Amphibian gyroplane ³	Amphibian gyroplane ³	Amphibian gyroplane ³			
		Land helicopter ³	Land helicopter ³			
Omnihopter	Helicopter	Sea helicopter ³	Sea helicopter ³			
		Amphibian helicopter ³	Amphibian helicopter ³			
Omnihopter	Omnihopter	Land omnihopter ³	Land omnihopter ³			
		Sea omnihopter ³	Sea omnihopter ³			
		Amphibian omnihopter ³	Amphibian omnihopter ³			

1. Generally designated "kite-balloon".
2. "Float" or "boat" may be added as appropriate.
3. Includes aircraft equipped with ski-type landing gear (substitute "ski" for "land").
4. For the purpose of completeness only.

MADE by the Minister responsible for civil aviation this 14th day of October, 2023.



(HON. JOHN BRICEÑO)

**Prime Minister and Minister of Finance,
Economic Development and Investment**
(Minister responsible for civil aviation)