

Article 139. An authorization granted in this form to an aviation school may be cancelled at any time of deficiencies in the instruction and issuance of licenses is proved.

Article 140. Aviation clubs shall be organized as civil associations and their statutes and bylaws must be approved by the Ministry of Development. Subsequently they shall apply to the respective authority for recognition as a legal person. The Ministry of Development shall control the aerial and technical activities of the clubs in accordance with the applicable regulation.

Article 141. The importation of airplanes, engines, equipment, apparatus, materials, spare parts, fuel and lubricants destined for the use of aviation clubs who have been recognized as legal persons by the Government shall be duty free.

Article 142. The General Direction of Civil Aeronautics may request that the agency of jurisdiction or the Ministry of Development revoke recognition of an aviation club as a legal person if such club does not comply with the applicable regulations.

CHAPTER XIV. INVESTIGATION OF AIR ACCIDENTS

Article 143. The General Direction of Civil Aeronautics shall investigate accidents that may occur to civil aircraft within the national territory.

After conclusion of the investigation which shall be made in compliance with the applicable regulations that agency shall determine the probable cause of the accident and shall issue pertinent recommendations. If necessary, it may impose administrative penalties and thereafter inform the competent judicial authorities of the facts.

Article 144. Search and salvage of crashed or lost aircraft shall be matters of public interest and the authorities, the air carriers and private persons shall cooperate in these activities within the scope of their respective competence in conformity with the provisions of the applicable regulations.

Article 145. Search and salvage operations shall be directed and controlled by the General Direction of Civil Aeronautics, when the accident was suffered by a public transportation or private service aircraft. The expenses incurred in the rescue of an aircraft and of the victims shall be borne by the operators or owners of the aircraft that suffered the accident.

Article 146. Any person who has knowledge of an air accident must inform the nearest authority, which shall communicate the facts by the fastest means to the General Direction of Civil Aeronautics.

In the absence of a commander of an aircraft and of an aviation authority, the first authority that gives assistance at the place of the accident shall take all steps necessary for the protection of, and help to the passengers and crew, and take the aircraft, baggage, cargo and mail under its responsibility.

Article 147. The Inspectors of Aeronautics or, if not available, the commander of the nearest aerodrome shall personally inspect the damaged aircraft, take the necessary measures and immediately report to the General Direction of Civil Aeronautics.

Article 148. The Ministry of Development shall create auxiliary centers of search and salvage in places that are considered to be convenient.