

However, no carrier who accepts baggage without issuance of the corresponding tags, or if the tag does not contain the data indicated in letters c), d) and e) of Article 170, shall have any right to rely on the provisions of this law which exclude or limit his liability.

*Article 172.* Merchandise may be transported as express or freight. Merchandise transported as express shall be deemed to be that which is despatched by the carrier with priority over any other cargo and within a maximum period of 48 hours after receipt. Merchandise transported as freight shall be deemed that which the carrier despatches at any time within a maximum period of 7 days after receipt.

*Article 173.* Notwithstanding paragraph 2 of this article, any carrier of merchandise may request of the shipper the issuance and delivery of a document called "Letter of Air Carriage", which may be issued to the carrier, to order, or by name and which is negotiable in the manner and with the effects provided for in the Commercial Code for instruments of this kind.

However, the lack, irregularities, or loss of said document shall not affect the existence or validity of the carriage contract which shall continue in accordance with the provisions of this law, Article 177 notwithstanding.

*Article 174.* The issuance of the letter of air carriage shall be subject to the following rules:

- a) It shall be issued by the shipper in three original copies and be delivered with the merchandise;
- b) The first copy shall carry the indication "for the carrier" and shall be signed by the shipper. The second copy shall carry the indication "for the consignee" and shall be signed by the shipper and the carrier, and shall accompany the merchandise. The third copy shall be signed by the carrier and shall be delivered by it to the shipper after the merchandise is accepted;
- c) The signature of the carrier must be affixed to this document from the moment the merchandise is accepted;
- d) The signature of the carrier may be replaced by a seal or stamp; the shipper's signature may be stamped or replaced by a seal; and,
- e) If, by request, the letter of air carriage is issued to the shipper, he shall be considered as acting for the account of the shipper, unless there is proof to the contrary.

*Article 175.* The carrier shall have the right to request of the shipper the issuance of separate letters of carriage when there are several pieces.

*Article 176.* The letter of air carriage shall contain the following indications:

- a) The place in which the document has been issued and the date of issuance;
- b) The points of departure and destination;
- c) The anticipated stops, with reservation of the right of the carrier to stipulate that he may change them if necessary;
- d) The name or firm name of the shipper and his address;
- e) The name or firm name of the first carrier and his address;
- f) The name or firm name of the consignee and his address, if required;
- g) The nature of the merchandise;