

*Art. 983.* (Indemnity and compensation for assistance to a vessel or aircraft.) Assistance to a vessel or an aircraft which is not given in view of an express and reasonable refusal of the commander, shall give a right, within the limits of the value of goods or property salvaged, to compensation for damages received and to reimbursement of the expenses incurred, as well as to a reward if the assistance has proved even partially useful.

The reward is fixed in proportion to the success obtained, to the risks run by the assisting aircraft, to the efforts made and the time employed, and to the general expenses of the enterprise, if the aircraft is employed for the purpose of assistance, as well as of the danger to the property and its value.

*Art. 984.* (Indemnity and reward for salvage of property.) The salvage of goods which has not been carried out in view of the express reasonable refusal of the owners of the property or of the commander of the vessel or the aircraft in danger, shall give a right, within the limits established in the preceding article, to compensation for damages and to reimbursement of expenses as well as determined in accordance with the regulations of the previous article in cases when even a partially useful result has been achieved.

*Art. 985.* (Indemnity and compensation for assistance to, or rescue of persons.) Assistance to, and rescue of persons shall give a right to compensation for damages suffered and to reimbursement of expenses incurred by the rescuing aircraft only in the cases and within the limits in which the amount is covered by insurance or by the liability of the carrier if he has not fulfilled his insurance obligation in accordance with Article 941.

These cases, or others when there have been operations of assistance to ships or aircraft or of salvage of goods, assistance to, or rescue of persons, which have led to a useful result, shall further give a right to a reward, respectively, within the limits of the residual amount covered by insurance or by the liability of the carrier, after deduction of the amounts due for damage compensation and reimbursement of expenses, and within the limits of a quota equitably established of the reward relative to other operations. The compensation shall be determined in proportion to the risks incurred, the efforts made, and the time employed, as well as to the danger threatening the persons assisted or rescued.

*Art. 986.* (Validity of contractual determination of a compensation.) The determination of a compensation made by agreement or through arbitration shall not be valid with regard to crew members who do not accept it unless it has been approved by a trade union representing them.

*Art. 987.* (Concourse of operations and of rescuers.) When an aircraft, at the same time, has given assistance to a vessel or an aircraft and to persons, or goods have been salvaged and persons rescued, or assistance has been given to a ship or aircraft or to persons and goods have been salvaged and persons rescued, the amount of damages and of expenses shall be equitably divided among the various operations.

When several aircraft participated in the same operation of assistance or salvage, the provisions of Article 970 shall apply to the preference of the rescuers.