

Article 134. The authorization granted by the Ministry of Aviation to an aviation school may be cancelled at any time when irregularities in the instruction and the issuance of diplomas are proved.

Article 135. Aviation clubs shall be organized as civil associations and their charters and bylaws must be approved by the Ministry of Aviation after which that agency shall obtain recognition of their legal personality from the respective authority. The Ministry of Aviation shall supervise the air and technical activities of the clubs, in accordance with the respective regulation.

Article 136. There shall be no customs duty on the importation of aircraft, engines, equipment, apparatus, materials, repair parts, fuel and lubricants for the use of aviation clubs whose establishment has been recognized by the Executive Power.

Article 137. The Ministry of Aviation may request the respective authority to cancel the Resolution by which the legal personality of an aviation club has been recognized when the latter does not comply with the regulatory provisions.

CHAPTER V. INVESTIGATION OF AIR ACCIDENTS

Article 138. The Ministry of Aviation shall have the duty to investigate accidents which happen to civil aircraft within the national territory.

After conclusion of the investigation which shall be carried out in the form prescribed by the applicable regulation, the above agency shall determine the probable cause of the accident and make appropriate recommendations. If necessary, it shall impose appropriate administrative penalties and, when it is in order to do so, he shall bring the facts to the attention of the judicial authority which has jurisdiction.

Article 139. Aid to, and salvage of aircraft which have suffered an accident or are lost, shall be matters of public interest, and the authorities as well as air carriers and private persons must participate therein to the extent that they are able to do so, in accordance with the provisions of the applicable regulation.

Article 140. Aid and salvage operations shall be directed and supervised by the Ministry of Aviation when the accident involves an aircraft in public transportation. The expenses caused by the rescue of the aircraft and the victims shall be borne by the carrier.

Article 141. Any person who has knowledge of an air accident, must inform the nearest authority which shall have the duty to communicate the facts by the fastest method to the Ministry of Aviation.

In the absence of the aircraft commander and an aeronautical authority, the first official arriving at the place of the accident shall take charge of the aircraft, baggage, the cargo and mail, and shall take the measures necessary for the protection of, and assistance to passengers and crew.

Article 142. The inspectors of the Aeronautics Board or, in their absence, the commander of the nearest airdrome shall have the duty personally to come to inspect the aircraft involved in the accident, and to take the necessary steps and immediately to inform the Ministry of Aviation.

Article 143. The Ministry of Aviation shall establish centers for aid and rescue in such places as it may deem convenient.