

In case of jettisoning by reason of *force majeure*, or jettisoning of regulation ballast or of specially authorized jettisoning which causes damages to persons and property on the ground, the liability shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of the preceding article.

*Art. 57.* In the case of charter of an aircraft, the owner and the operator shall be jointly liable to third persons for any damages.

However, when the charter has been recorded in the register, the owner shall only be liable when the third person proves negligence on his part.

*Art. 58.* An action for liability shall be brought in the court of the place where the damage was caused or in the court at the domicile of the defendant, at the choice of the plaintiff.

In the case of damage caused to an aircraft in flight, the court at the place where the damaged aircraft had to land after the injury shall have jurisdiction.

*Art. 59.* Any person who finds a wrecked aircraft must notify the nearest administrative authority within forty-eight hours after the discovery.

*Art. 60.* In the case of disappearance of an aircraft without news, the aircraft shall be presumed lost three months after the date when the last news was sent.

*Art. 61.* After expiration of the period provided for in Article 60 above, the death of the persons abroad the aircraft may be declared by judgment in accordance with the provisions of the Civil Code.

If necessary, the Minister in charge of civil aviation may declare that there is a presumption of disappearance and he may send to the court of jurisdiction the requests necessary for a judicial declaration of the death of the persons who have disappeared.

Interested persons may also proceed, in accordance with the provisions of the Civil Code, to obtain a judicial declaration of death. In that case, such request shall be transmitted by the Public Ministry to the Minister in charge of civil aviation.

*Art. 62.* The manner of application of the preceding articles shall be determined by decree.

#### TITLE IV. ACCIDENTS

*Art. 63.* The flight commander shall submit a detailed report within forty-eight hours after any accident or other event which may have serious consequences, whether it occurs on the ground, or in flight, or concerning any violation of flight rules.

*Art. 64.* The Minister in charge of civil aviation shall institute all investigations and inquiries in order to determine and state the causes of accidents or other events.

He may appoint a commission of investigation whose membership, functioning, and jurisdiction shall be determined by regulation.

*Art. 65.* When the commission of investigation provided for in the preceding article finds negligence in performance of a professional duty, a copy of the file shall be sent directly to the disciplinary board of the Civil Aviation Board provided for in Article 147 below.