

LAW N<sup>o</sup> 2017/013 OF 12 JUL 2017

TO PUNISH OFFENCES AGAINST CIVIL AVIATION SAFETY



*The Parliament deliberated and adopted,  
the President of the Republic hereby  
enacts the law set out below:*

## CHAPTER 1 GENERALES PROVISIONS

**SECTION 1:** This law relates to the punishment of acts that undermine civil aviation safety.

**SECTION 2:** For purposes of implementing this law, the following definitions shall apply:

**Aircraft:** any machine that can derive support in the atmosphere from the reactions of the air, other than the reactions of the air against the earth's surface;

**Sworn Officers of the Civil Aviation Authority:** Safety Inspectors and Security Inspectors of the Civil Aviation Authority;

**Luggage:** personal belongings of passengers or crew members carried aboard an aircraft pursuant to an agreement with the operator.

**SECTION 3:** The criminal laws of Cameroon shall apply to any act relating to one of the elements of one of the offences provided for under this law committed within the national territory or aboard an aircraft flying the flag of Cameroon, or whose owner or operator is resident in Cameroon.

**SECTION 4:** The criminal courts of Cameroon shall be competent to hear and determine the offences provided for under this law where the offenders concerned are found on the national territory, or have used such territory or the national airspace to commit an element of the offence.

## CHAPTER II OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

**SECTION 5:** Whoever unlawfully seizes or attempts to seize an aircraft on the ground or in flight shall be punished with imprisonment for life.

**SECTION 6:** Whoever, using any means whatsoever, damages or attempts to damage, even partially, an aircraft in service, an aerodrome or an air navigation facility shall be punished with imprisonment for life.

**SECTION 7:** Whoever takes hostages or attempts to take hostage another aboard an aircraft or on an aerodrome shall be punished with imprisonment for life or fine of from CFAF fifty million (50 000 000) to CFAF two hundred million (200 000 000).





**SECTION 8:** Whoever forcibly enters or attempts to enter an aircraft, an airport or the premises of an aviation facility shall be punished with imprisonment of from twenty-five (25) to fifty (50) years and fine of from CFAF twenty-five million (25 000 000) to CFAF one hundred and fifty million (150 000 000).

**SECTION 9:** Whoever brings or attempts to bring a weapon, a dangerous device or hazardous substance into an aircraft or into an airport with criminal intent shall be punished with imprisonment of from twenty (20) to thirty (30) years and fine of from CFAF twenty million (20 000 000) to CFAF fifty million (50 000 000).

**SECTION 10:** Whoever uses or attempts to use an aircraft in service to cause the death of persons on the ground or in flight shall be sentenced to death.

**SECTION 11:** Whoever communicates false information likely to jeopardize the safety of an aircraft in flight or on the ground, passengers, crew members, the flight crew, ground crew or the public, in an aircraft or within the premises of a civil aviation facility shall be punished with imprisonment of from ten (10) to twenty (20) years and fine of from CFAF five million (5 000 000) to CFAF ten million (10 000 000).

**SECTION 12:** (1) Whoever abandons luggage with or without a registration tag in an airport shall be punished with fine of from CFAF one hundred thousand (100 000) to CFAF five hundred thousand (500 000).

(2) The penalty shall be imprisonment of from ten (10) to twenty (20) years where such abandoned luggage is dangerous.

**SECTION 13:** (1) Any passenger who brings checked hold luggage into the cabin without authorization shall be punished with fine of from CFAF one hundred thousand (100 000) to CFAF five hundred thousand (500 000).

(2) Whoever without reason refuses to collect luggage belonging to them shall be punished with fine of from CFAF one hundred thousand (100 000) to CFAF five hundred thousand (500 000).

**SECTION 14:** Whoever refuses to submit to established measures designed to prevent the bringing aboard an aircraft of weapons, explosives or other dangerous devices, items and substances that may be used to commit an unlawful act shall be punished with imprisonment of from five (5) to ten (10) years or fine of from CFAF five hundred thousand (500 000) to CFAF one million (1 000 000) or with both such imprisonment and fine.

PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
SECRETARIAT GENERAL  
SERVICE DU FICHIER LEGISLATIF ET REGLEMENTAIRE  
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**SECTION 15:** Any crew member of an aircraft who refuses to submit their aircraft to the safety inspection provided for by the regulations in force shall be punished with imprisonment of from five (5) to ten (10) years.

**SECTION 16:** Prosecution for the offences provided for under this law and the penalties inflicted on offenders shall not be time-barred.

**SECTION 17:** Without prejudice to the prerogatives of criminal investigation officers with general jurisdiction, Sworn Officers of the Civil Aviation Authority shall be competent to establish the offences provided for under this law and conduct related investigations.

### **CHAPTER III** **FINAL PROVISION**

**SECTION 18:** This law, which repeals all previous provisions repugnant hereto shall be registered, published according to the procedure of urgency and inserted in the Official Gazette in English and French./-

YAOUNDE, 12 JUL 2017

