AGREEMENT ON AIR TRANSPORT BETWEEN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC

Being Parties to the Convention on International Civil Aviation opened for signature at Chicago on the seventh day of December 1944;

Desiring to organize, in a safe and orderly manner, international air services and to promote in the greatest possible measure international cooperation in respect of such services; and

Desiring to establish an Agreement to foster the development of scheduled air services between and beyond their territories,

Agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of the present Agreement:

- The term "Agreement" shall mean this Agreement, its Annex and any amendment thereto;
- b) The term "Convention" shall mean the Convention on International Civil Aviation opened for signature at Chicago on the seventh day of December 1944, including any Annex adopted under Article 90 of that Convention and any amendment of the Annexes or Convention under Articles 90 and 94 thereof, so far as those Annexes and amendments have been adopted by both Parties;
- c) The term "EU Treaties" shall mean the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union;
- d) The term "aeronautical authorities" shall mean, in the case of the Portuguese Republic the National Civil Aviation Authority, and in the case of the Dominican Republic, the Civil Aviation Board of the Dominican Republic, or in both cases, any other authority or person empowered to perform the functions now exercised by the said authorities;
- The term "capacity" shall mean the amount(s) of services provided under the present agreement usually measured in the number of flights (frequencies) or seats or tons of cargo offered in the market or on a route during a specific period;
- f) The term "designated airline" shall mean any airline, which has been designated and authorized in accordance with Article 3 of the present Agreement;
- g) The terms "sovereignty" and "territory" shall have the meanings assigned to them, respectively, in Articles 1 and 2 of the Convention;
- h) The terms "air service", "international air service", "airline" and "stop for non-traffic purposes" shall have the meanings assigned to them in Article 96 of the Convention;
- The term "tariff" shall mean the prices to be paid for the carriage of passengers, baggage and cargo and the conditions under which those prices apply, including prices and conditions for agency and other ancillary services, but excluding remuneration or conditions for the carriage of mail;
- j) The term "Annex" shall mean the Route Schedule attached to the present Agreement and any Clauses or Notes appearing in such Annex. The Annex to this Agreement is considered an integrant part thereof; and
- k) The term "LACAC Member State" means a State that is a contracting party to the Treaty establishing the Latin American Civil Aviation Commission.

ARTICLE 2

ARTICLE 2 GRANT OF TRAFFIC RIGHTS

- Each Party grants to the other Party the following rights in respect of international air services conducted by the designated airlines of the other Party:
 - a) The right to fly across its territory without landing,
 - b) The right to make stops in its territory for non-traffic purposes, and
 - c) The other rights specified in the Annex of this Agreement.
- 2. Each Party grants to the other Party the rights hereinafter specified in this Agreement for the purpose of the operation of scheduled international air services by the other Party's designated airlines on the routes specified in the appropriate Section of the Annex. Such services and routes are hereinafter called "the agreed services" and "the specified routes" respectively. While operating an agreed service on a specified route the airlines designated by each Party shall enjoy in addition to the rights specified in paragraph 1 of this Article and subject to the provisions of this Agreement. the right to make stops in the territory of the other Party at the points specified for that route in the Annex to this Agreement for the purpose of taking on board and disembarking passengers, baggage, cargo and mail.
- 3. Nothing in paragraph 2 of this Article shall be deemed to confer on the designated airlines of one Party the right of embarking, in the territory of the other Party, traffic carried for remuneration or hire and destined for another point in the territory of that Party.
- 4. If the designated airlines of one Party are unable to operate services on its normal routing because of armed conflict, political disturbances, or special and unusual circumstances the other Party shall make its best efforts to facilitate the continued operation of such service through appropriate rearrangements of such routes, including the grant of rights for such time as may be necessary to facilitate viable operations. This provision shall be applied without discrimination between the designated airlines of the Parties

ARTICLE 3 DESIGNATION AND OPERATING AUTHORIZATION OF AIRLINES

- Each Party shall have the right to designate up to three airlines for the purpose
 of operating the agreed services on the routes specified in the Annex and to
 withdraw or alter such designations. Those designations shall be made in writing
 and shall be transmitted to the other Party through diplomatic channels.
- 2. On receipt of such a designation, and of applications from a designated airline, in the form and manner prescribed for operating authorizations and technical permissions, the other Party shall grant the appropriate authorizations and permissions with minimum procedure delay, provided that:
 - a) In the case of an airline designated by the Portuguese Republic:
 - It is established in the territory of the Portuguese Republic under the EU
 Treaties and has a valid Operating License in accordance with the law of
 the European Union; and
 - II. Effective regulatory control of the airline is exercised and maintained by the EU Member State responsible for issuing its Air Operator's Certificate and the relevant aeronautical authority is clearly identified in the designation; and
 - III. The airline is owned, directly or through majority ownership, and it is effectively controlled by Member States of the EU or the European Free Trade Association and/or by nationals of such States.

- b) In the case of an airline designated by the Dominican Republic:
 - I. It is established in the territory of the Dominican Republic and has a valid Operating License in accordance with the legislation of the Dominican Republic; and
 - II. Effective regulatory control of the airline is exercised and maintained by the Dominican Republic or by a Member State of LACAC, which has concluded an Air Services Agreement with the Portuguese Republic, and the Air Operators Certificate has been issued by the Dominican Republic or by such Member State of LACAC, and the relevant aeronautical authority is clearly identified in the designation, and
 - III. The airline is owned and shall continue to be owned directly or through majority ownership by the Dominican Republic or LACAC Member States and/or nationals of such LACAC Member States, and shall at all times be effectively controlled by such States and/or by nationals of such States.
 - c) The designated airline is qualified to meet the conditions prescribed under the legislation normally applied to the operation of international air services by the Party considering the application or applications.
- 3. When an airline has been designated and authorized in accordance with this Article, it may operate, in whole or in part, the agreed services for which it is designated, provided that it complies with the provisions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 4 REFUSAL, REVOCATION, SUSPENSION AND LIMITATION OF RIGHTS

- 1. Each Party shall have the right to refuse, revoke, suspend or limit the operating authorizations or technical permissions of an airline designated by the other Party of the rights specified in Article 2 of the present Agreement, or to submit the exercise of those rights to the conditions considered necessary, where:
 - a) In the case of an airline designated by the Portuguese Republic:
 - It is not established in the territory of the Portuguese Republic under the EU Treaties or does not have a valid Operating License in accordance with the law of the European Union; or
 - ii. Effective regulatory control of the designated airline is not exercised or not maintained by the EU Member State responsible for issuing its Air Operator's Certificate, or the relevant aeronautical authority is not clearly identified in the designation, or
 - iii. The airline is not owned, directly or through majority ownership, or it is not effectively controlled by Member States of the EU or the European Free Trade Association and/or by nationals of such States.
 - b) In the case of an airline designated by the Dominican Republic:
 - It is not established in the territory of the Dominican Republic or does not have a valid Operating License in accordance with the legislation of the Dominican Republic, or
 - ii. Effective regulatory control of the airline is not exercised and not maintained by the Dominican Republic or by a Member State of LACAC, which has concluded an Air Services Agreement with the Portuguese Republic, and the Air Operator's Certificate has not been issued by the Dominican Republic or by such Member State of LACAC, and the relevant aeronautical authority is not clearly identified in the designation, or
 - iii. The airline is not owned directly or through majority ownership by Dominican Republic or LACAC Member States and/or nationals of such LACAC Member States, or is not effectively controlled by such States and/or by nationals of such States.

- c) In the case the designated airline fails to meet the conditions prescribed under the legislation normally applied to the operation of international air services by the Party considering the application or applications, or
- d) In the case of failure by such designated airline to comply with the legislation of the Party granting the authorization or permission, or
- e) In the case the designated airline fails to operate the agreed services in accordance with the conditions prescribed under the present Agreement.
- 2. Unless immediate refusal, revocation, suspension, limitation or imposition of the conditions mentioned in paragraph 1 of this Article is essential to prevent further infringements of the legislation, the right to refuse, revoke, suspend, limit or impose conditions shall be exercised only after consultation with the other Party. The consultation shall take place within a period of thirty (30) days from the date of the proposal to hold it unless otherwise agreed.

ARTICLE 5 APPLICATION OF LEGISLATION AND PROCEDURES

- The legislation and procedures of one Party relating to the admission to, sojourn
 in, or departure from its territory of aircraft engaged in international air services,
 or to the operation and navigation of such aircraft while within its territory, shall
 be applied to the aircraft of both Parties upon entering into or departing from or
 while within the territory of the first Party.
- 2. The legislation and procedures of one Party relating to the admission to, stay in, or departure from its territory of passengers, crew, baggage, cargo and mail transported on board the aircraft, such as those relating to entry, clearance, immigration, passports, customs and sanitary control, shall be complied with by the airline of the other Party, or on behalf of such passengers, crew, entity entitled of baggage, cargo and mail upon entrance into or departure from or while within the territory of this Party.

ARTICLE 6 CUSTOM DUTIES AND OTHER CHARGES

- Aircraft operating on international services by the designated airlines of either Party, as well as their regular equipment, spare parts, supplies of fuels and lubricants, other consumable technical supplies and aircraft stores (including food, beverages and tobacco) on board such aircraft shall be exempt from custom duties, inspection fees and other duties or taxes on arriving in the territory of the other Party, provided such equipment, supplies and aircraft stores remain on board the aircraft up to such time as they are re-exported, or are used on the part of the journey performed over that territory.
- 2. There shall also be exempt from the same duties, fees and taxes, with the exception of charges corresponding to the service performed:
 - a) Aircraft stores taken on board in the territory of a Party, within limits fixed by the authorities of that Party, and for use on board outbound aircraft engaged in international air services by the designated airlines of the other Party;
 - Spare parts and regular equipment entered into the territory of a Party for the maintenance or repair of aircraft used on international air services by the designated airlines of the other Party;
 - c) Lubricants and other consumable technical supplies intended to supply outbound aircraft operated on international air services by the designated airlines of the other Party, even when these supplies are to be used on the part of the journey performed over the territory of the Party in which they are taken aboard.

- 3. All materials referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article may be required to be kept under custom supervision or control.
- 4. The regular airborne equipment, as well as the materials and supplies retained on board the aircraft of the designated airlines of either Party, may be unloaded in the territory of the other Party only with the approval of the custom authorities of that territory. In such case, they may be placed under the supervision of the said authorities up to such time as they are re-exported or otherwise disposed of in accordance with custom regulations.
- 5. The exemptions provided for by this Article shall also be available where a designated airline of one Party has contracted with another airline, which similarly enjoys such exemptions from the other Party, for the loan or transfer in the territory of the other Party of the items specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article.
- 6. Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent:
 - I. the Portuguese Republic from imposing, on a non-discriminatory basis, taxes, levies, duties, fees or charges on fuel supplied in its territory for use in an aircraft of a designated airline of the Dominican Republic that operates between a point in the territory of the Portuguese Republic and another point in the territory of the Portuguese Republic or in the territory of another European Union Member State, and
 - II. the Dominican Republic from imposing, on a non-discriminatory basis, taxes, levies, duties, fees or charges on fuel supplied in its territory for use in an aircraft of a designated airline of the Portuguese Republic that operates between a point in the territory of the Dominican Republic and another point in the territory of the Dominican Republic or in the territory of another LACAC Member State.

ARTICLE 7 USER CHARGES

- Each Party may impose or permit to be imposed just and reasonable charges, based on sound economic principles, for the use of airports, other facilities and air services under its control in accordance with the laws and regulations of each Party.
- Neither Party shall impose or permit to be imposed on the designated airlines of the other Party charges higher than those imposed on its own airlines engaged in similar international services.

ARTICLE 8 TRAFFIC IN DIRECT TRANSIT

Traffic in direct transit across the territory of either Party and not leaving the area of the airport reserved for such purpose shall, except in respect of security measures against the threat of unlawful interference, such as violence and air piracy and occasional measures for the combat of illicit drug traffic, be subject to no more than a simplified control. Baggage and cargo in direct transit shall be exempt from custom duties, charges and other similar taxes.

ARTICLE 9 RECOGNITION OF CERTIFICATES AND LICENCES

 Certificates of airworthiness, certificates of competency and licenses issued, or rendered valid, in accordance with the rules and procedures of one Party, including, in the case of the Portuguese Republic, European Union law and regulations, and still in force shall be recognized as valid by the other Party for the purpose of operating the agreed services, provided always that the requirements under which such certificates and licenses were issued, or rendered valid, are equal to or above the minimum standards established pursuant to the Convention.

- 2. Paragraph 1 also applies with respect to an airline designated by:
 - a) the Portuguese Republic whose regulatory control is exercised and maintained by another European Union Member State, and
 - b) the Dominican Republic whose regulatory control is exercised and maintained by another LACAC Member State, which has concluded an Air Services Agreement with the Portuguese Republic.
- 3. Each Party, however, reserves the right to refuse to recognize, for flights above its own territory, certificates of competency and licenses granted or validated to its own nationals by the other Party or by any other State.

ARTICLE 10 COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATION

- The designated airlines of each Party shall be allowed :
 - a) To establish in the territory of the other Party offices for the promotion of air transportation and sale of air tickets as well as, in accordance with the legislation in force of such other Party, other facilities required for the provision of air transportation;
 - b) To bring in and maintain in the territory of the other Party in accordance with the legislation of such other Party relating to entry, residence and employment- managerial, sales, technical, operational and other specialist staff required for the provision of air transportation, and
 - c) In the territory of the other Party to engage directly and, at the airlines discretion, through its agents in the sale of air transportation.
- 2. The competent authorities of each Party will take all necessary steps to ensure that the representation of the airlines designated by the other Party may exercise their activities in an orderly manner.

ARTICLE 11 COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

- The designated airlines of each Party shall have the right to sell, in the territory
 of the other Party, air transportation and any person shall be free to purchase
 such transportation in the currency of that territory or in freely convertible
 currencies of other countries in accordance with the foreign exchange regulations
 in force.
- 2. In the exercise of the commercial activities, the principles mentioned in the previous number shall be applied to the designated airlines of both Parties.

ARTICLE 12 CONVERSION AND TRANSFER OF REVENUES

- Each Party grants to the designated airlines of the other Party the right of free transfer at the official rate of exchange, in convertible currencies in which the payment is done, of the excess of receipts over expenditures achieved in connection with the carriage of passengers, baggage, cargo and mail on the agreed services in its territory and in accordance with the applicable national law in the territory of the Party from which the transfer is made.
- 2. For the purposes of this Article, the applicable domestic law of the Portuguese Republic includes all measures taken by the European Union.

ARTICLE 13 CAPACITY

- 1. The air transport facilities available to the travelling public should bear a close relationship to the requirements of public for such transport.
- 2. The designated airline or airlines of each Party shall have a fair and equal opportunity to operate on any agreed route between the territories of the two Parties.
- Each Party shall take into consideration the interests of the airlines of the other Party so as not to affect unduly their opportunity to offer the services covered by this Agreement.
- 4. The frequency and capacity to be provided for the carriage between their respective territories shall be notified to the aeronautical authorities of both Parties.
- 5. Provision for the carriage of traffic embarked in the territory of the other Party and disembarked at points in third countries on the specified routes or vice versa shall be made in accordance with the general principles that capacity shall be related to:
 - a) The requirements of traffic embarked or disembarked in the territory of the Party, which has designated the airlines;
 - b) The requirements of traffic of the area through which the airline passes, after taking account of the other air transport services established by airlines of the States situated in the area; and
 - c) The requirements of economical through airline operation.
- 6. The frequency and the capacity for the carriage of traffic referred to in paragraph 5 above shall be subject to the approval of the aeronautical authorities of both Parties.
- 7. In the event that the aeronautical authorities of the Parties do not fall in agreement upon the capacity submitted to them under paragraph 6 above, the matter shall be dealt with in accordance with Article 19 of this Agreement.
- 8. If the aeronautical authorities of the Parties fail to agree on the capacity to be provided under paragraph 5 above, the designated airlines of the Parties have the right to maintain the previously agreed capacity.

ARTICLE 14 APPROVAL OF CONDITIONS OF OPERATION

- The time-tables of the agreed services and in general the conditions of their operation shall be notified at least thirty (30) days before the intended date of their implementation. Any significant modification to such time-tables or conditions of their operation shall also be notified, to the aeronautical authorities, at least eight-working days before their intended operation. In special cases, the above set time limit may be reduced subject to the agreement of the said authorities.
- For minor modifications or in case of supplementary flights, the designated airlines of one Party shall notify the aeronautical authorities of the other Party, at least four-working days before their intended operation. In special cases, this time limit may be reduced subject to agreement of the said authorities.

ARTICLE 15 SAFETY

- Each Party may request consultations at any time concerning safety standards in any area relating to aircrew, aircraft or their operation adopted by the other Party. Such consultations shall take place within thirty (30) days of that request.
- 2. If, following such consultations, one Party finds that the other Party does not effectively maintain and administer safety standards in any such area that are at least equal to the minimum standards established at that time pursuant to the Convention, the first Party shall notify the other Party of those findings and the steps considered necessary to conform with those minimum standards, and that other Party shall take appropriate corrective action. Failure by the other Party to take appropriate action within fifteen (15) days or such longer period as may be agreed shall be grounds for the application of Article 4 of this Agreement.
- 3. Notwithstanding the obligations mentioned in Article 33 of the Convention it is agreed that any aircraft operated by the designated airlines of one Party on services to or from the territory of the other Party may, while within the territory of the other Party, be made the subject of an examination by the authorized representatives of the other Party, on board and around the aircraft to check both the validity of the aircraft documents and those of its crew and the apparent condition of the aircraft and its equipment (called "ramp inspection"), provided this does not lead to unreasonable delay.
- 4. If any such ramp inspection or series of ramp inspections gives rise to serious concerns that an aircraft or the operation of an aircraft does not comply with the minimum standards established at that time pursuant to the Convention, or serious concerns that there is a lack of effective maintenance and administration of safety standards established at that time pursuant to the Convention, the Party carrying out the inspection shall, for the purposes of Article 33 of the Convention, be free to conclude that the requirements under which the certificate or licenses in respect of that aircraft or in respect of the crew of that aircraft had been issued or rendered valid, or that the requirements under which that aircraft is operated, are not equal to or above the minimum standards established pursuant to the Convention.
- 5. In the event that access for the purpose of undertaking a ramp inspection of an aircraft operated by a designated airline of one Party in accordance with paragraph 3 above is denied by the representative of that designated airline the other Party shall be free to infer that serious concerns of the type referred to in paragraph 4 above arise and draw the conclusions referred in that paragraph.
- 6. Each Party reserves the right to suspend or vary the operating authorization of the designated airline of the other Party immediately in the event the first Party concludes, whether as a result of a ramp inspection, a series of ramp inspections, a denial of access for ramp inspection, consultation or otherwise, that immediate action is essential to the safety of the airlines' operation.
- Any action by one Party in accordance with paragraphs 2 or 6 above shall be discontinued once the basis for the taking of that action ceases to exist.
- 8. Where the Portuguese Republic has designated an airline whose regulatory control is exercised and maintained by another European Union Member State, the rights of the other Party under this Article shall apply equally in respect of the adoption, exercise or maintenance of safety standards by that other European Union Member State and in respect of the operating authorization of that airline.

ARTICLE 16 SECURITY

- 1. Consistent with their rights and obligations under international law and national law, the Parties reaffirm that their obligation to each other to protect the security of civil aviation against acts of unlawful interference forms an integral part of this Agreement. Without limiting the generality of their rights and obligations under international law, the Parties shall in particular act in conformity with the provisions of:
 - a) The Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft, signed at Tokyo on 14 September 1963;
 - b) The Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, signed at The Hague on 16 December 1970;
 - c) The Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, signed at Montreal on 23 September 1971 and the Montreal Supplementary Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, signed at Montreal on 24 February 1988 and,
 - d) The Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection, done at Montreal on the 1st of March 1991.
- 2. The Parties shall, in their mutual relations, act as a minimum, in conformity with the aviation security provisions established by the International Civil Aviation Organization and designated as Annexes to the Convention to the extent that such security provisions are applicable to the Parties; they shall require that operators of aircraft of their registry or operators of aircraft who have their principal place of business or permanent residence in their territory or, in the case of the Portuguese Republic operators of aircraft which are established in its territory under the European Union Treaties and have received valid Operating Licenses in accordance with European Union law, and the operators of airports in their territory act in conformity with such aviation security provisions.
- 3. The Parties shall provide upon request all necessary assistance to each other to prevent acts of unlawful seizure of civil aircraft and other unlawful acts against the safety of such aircraft, their passengers and crew, airports and air navigation facilities, and any other threat to the security of civil aviation.
- 4. Each Party agrees that such operators of aircraft shall be required to observe the aviation security provisions referred to in paragraph 2 above required by the other Party for entry into the territory of that other Party and also for departure from, or while within, the territory of the Dominican Republic. For departure from, or while within, the territory of the Portuguese Republic, operators of aircraft shall be required to observe aviation security provisions in conformity with European Union law. Each Party shall ensure that adequate measures are effectively applied within its territory to protect the aircraft and to inspect passengers, crew, carry-on items, and baggage, cargo and aircraft stores prior to and during boarding or loading. Each Party shall also give sympathetic consideration to any request from the other Party for reasonable special security measures to meet a particular threat.
- 5. When an incident or threat of an incident of unlawful seizure of civil aircraft or other unlawful acts against the safety of such aircraft, their passengers and crew, airports or air navigation facilities occurs, the Parties shall assist each other by facilitating communications and other appropriate measures intended to terminate rapidly and safely such incident or threat thereof.
- 6. If a Party has occasional problems in the context of the present Article on safety of civil aviation, the aeronautical authorities of both Parties may request immediate consultations with the aeronautical authorities of the other Party.

ARTICLE 17 PROVISION OF STATISTICS

The aeronautical authorities of one Party shall supply the aeronautical authorities of the other Party, at their request, with such statistics as may be reasonably required for information purposes.

ARTICLE 18 TARIFFS

- Tariffs for international air transport operated pursuant to this Agreement shall not be required to be filed with the aeronautical authorities of either Party; however it may be required only for information purposes.
- 2. The Parties acknowledge that market forces shall be the primary consideration in the establishment of tariffs for air transportation. Without limiting the application of general competition and consumer law in each Party, consultations may be initiated by either Party in accordance with Article 19 for the:
 - a) prevention of unreasonably discriminatory practices;
 - b) protection of consumers from tariffs that are unreasonably high or restrictive because of the abuse of a dominant position or due to concerted practices among air carriers;
 - c) protection of airlines from tariffs to the extent that they are artificially low because of direct or indirect governmental subsidy or support; and
 - d) Protection of airlines from tariffs that are artificially low, where evidence exists as to an intent of eliminating competition.

ARTICLE 19 CONSULTATIONS

- In order to ensure close cooperation concerning all the issues related to the interpretation and application of this Agreement, the aeronautical authorities of each Party shall consult each other whenever it becomes necessary, on request of either Party.
- 2. Such consultations shall begin within a period of forty five (45) days from the date the other Party has received the written request.

ARTICLE 20 AMENDMENT

- If either Party considers it desirable to modify any provision of this Agreement, it
 may at any time request consultations to the other Party. Such consultations
 shall begin within a period of sixty (60) days from the date the other Party has
 received the written request.
- 2. The amendments resulting from the consultations referred to in the previous number shall enter into force according to what is established in Article 24.

ARTICLE 21 SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

- If any dispute arises between the Parties relating to the interpretation or application of this Agreement, the Parties shall in the first place endeavor to settle it by consultations and negotiation through diplomatic channels.
- If the Parties fail to reach a settlement by negotiation, they may agree to refer the dispute for decision to some entity, or the dispute may at the request of either Party be submitted for decision to an arbitral tribunal of three arbitrators,

Done in in Lisboa, on the 20 of May of 2019, in three original copies, in the Portuguese, Spanish and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English version shall prevail.

FOR THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

FOR THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC

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