

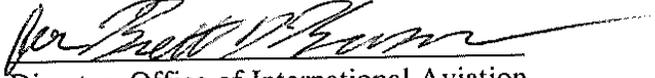


**U.S. Department of
Transportation**
Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

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Effective Date: July 1, 2020


Director, Office of International Aviation

REVOCATION OF SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION

On April 29, 2020, the Department granted Pakistan International Airlines Corporation Limited (PIA) a Special Authorization under 14 CFR §375.70 of the Department's regulations to the extent necessary to permit it to conduct up to twelve round-trip or one-way planeload passenger or cargo charter flights between a point or points outside the United States and a point or points in the United States. That Special Authorization was granted subject to the Department's standard conditions for Part 375 operations, notably including the following condition:

PIA must comply with (1) all applicable requirements of 14 CFR Part 375; (2) all applicable requirements of the Federal Aviation Administration contained in the Federal Aviation Regulations and all applicable orders of the FAA; and (3) all applicable ICAO standards set forth in the following Annexes: Annex 1, Personnel Licensing; Annex 6 part 1, Operations of Aircraft; and Annex 8, Airworthiness of Aircraft.¹

The Department's approval of PIA's Special Authorization request was granted following receipt of an April 28, 2020 FAA memo stating that the FAA knew of no reason why the Department should act unfavorably on PIA's application. However, by memo dated June 30, 2020, the FAA informed the Department of recent events identified by the Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority that are of serious concern to aviation safety. The June 30 memo stated that it has come to the FAA's attention that nearly one-third of Pakistani pilots are not properly certificated in accordance with international standards. The memo went on to expressly recommend that DOT rescind PIA's 14 CFR Part 375 authorization and that all operations into the United States National Airspace be terminated.

Section 375.22 provides that "flights of foreign civil aircraft in the United States shall be conducted in accordance with the currently applicable rules of the Federal Aviation Administration in 14 CFR chapter 1." Section 375.19 provides that "the operator of any foreign civil aircraft is not entitled as a matter of right to the ... freedom from modification or change in a permit Accordingly, any authority conferred by this part may be ... revoked ... by the Department in the interest of the public of the United States, without notice or hearing."

¹ See Undocketed April 29, 2020, Special Authorization, condition 3.

On that basis, and pursuant to the express request of the FAA in its memo to us of June 30, 2020, we have decided to revoke the April 29, 2020 special authorization granted to PIA, effective immediately.²

In view of the above, and acting under authority assigned by the Department in its regulations, 14 CFR §385.13, we find that (1) our action is consistent with Department policy; and (2) revocation of the above-mentioned April 29, 2020 PIA Special Authorization is in the public interest. Persons entitled to petition the Department for review of this action under the Department’s regulations, 14 CFR §385.30, should file their petitions within seven days of the date of this action. This action is effective immediately, and the filing of a petition for review will not alter its effectiveness.

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² The bases for our action here would also preclude any non-revenue operations by PIA under §375.30.