



CAR-UAR UNMANNED AIRCRAFT (UA) RECREATIONAL FLIGHTS

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Record of Amendment

Issue Number	Date of Applicability	Reason
Issue 01	August 25, 2020	Initial.
Issue 02	January 31, 2023	Amendment to align this regulation with Federal Decree-Law No. (26) of 2022.



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UAR.001 Abbreviations and Definitions

For the purposes of this regulation, the following abbreviations and definitions apply:

(a) Abbreviations

- (1) GCAA: General Civil Aviation Authority
- (2) LAA: Local Appropriate Authority
- (3) LoC: Letter of Conformity
- (4) MOIAT: Ministry of Industry & Advanced Technology
- (5) UA: Unmanned Aircraft
- (6) VLOS: Visual Line of Sight

(b) Definitions

- (1) **A recreational flight:** UA operation conducted for fun and enjoyment purposes only. Recreational flight does not include work, business, compensation or hiring purposes.
- (2) **Local Appropriate Authority:** The local authority responsible with regards to the civil aviation affairs in the relevant Emirate.
- (3) **UA Pilot:** means a natural person responsible for safely conducting the flight of a UA by operating its flight controls, either manually or, when the UA flies automatically, by monitoring its course and remaining able to intervene and change its course at any time.
- (4) **Unmanned Aircraft (UA):** An aircraft operated with no pilot on board. An UA may be remotely piloted or autonomously flown.

Note: UA includes a broad spectrum of aircraft, from drones, and model radio-controlled aircraft, to highly complex remotely piloted aircraft (RPA) and highly automated or autonomous UA.

- (5) **VLOS operation:** means a type of UAS operation in which, the remote pilot is able to maintain continuous unaided visual contact with the unmanned aircraft, allowing the remote pilot to control the flight path of the unmanned aircraft in relation to other aircraft, people and obstacles for the purpose of avoiding collisions.

GM to UAR.001 (b) (2) Abbreviations and Definitions

LAA of each emirate is the authority responsible for authorization, approval and oversight of the UA operations performed within its territory. If there is no LAA in a specific emirate or the LAA of this emirate is not



performing these tasks, the GCAA will be the sole responsible for approval and oversight of the UA operations performed within this emirate.

NOTE: If the operator is based in an emirate; it must communicate and obtain required authorisation and permission from LAA of relevant Emirate. Otherwise the operator shall communicate and obtain required authorisation and permission from GCAA.

UAR.005 Applicability

- (a) This CAR prescribes the requirements to be complied with, for the operation of UA for recreational purposes.
- (b) This CAR does not apply to:
- (1) UA operated by military or law enforcement agencies (state UA);
 - (2) UA intended for carriage of passengers;

Note: For purposes other than UA recreational use, refer to:

- i. CAR UAC- UNMANNED AIRCRAFT (UA) COMMERCIAL & GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS
- ii. CAR UAD - UNMANNED AIRCRAFT (UA) DEMONSTRATION OPERATIONS
- iii. CAR UAEV - UNMANNED AIRCRAFT (UA) EVENT OPERATIONS
- iv. CAR UAEX - UNMANNED AIRCRAFT (UA) EXPERIMENTATION OPERATIONS
- v. CAR-UAM - URBAN AIR MOBILITY OPERATIONS

UAR.010 UA Registration

- (a) Prior to any Unmanned Aircraft (UA) activity or operation, the UA pilot shall register the UA through the GCAA or the local appropriate authority (LAA) registration platform, as the case, the UA pilot shall:
- (1) be aged at least 18 years old.
 - (2) be UAE resident.
 - (3) Provide Letter of conformity from Ministry of Industry & Advanced Technology (MOIAT) e-service.
- (b) Once UA registration is completed, the owner shall mark the UA with the approval number provided in the registration certificate.

GM to UAR.010 (b) UA Registration

The owner may use permanent marker, label, or engraving to display Approval number on UA.

UAR.015 UA Pilot License (applicable until 31 December 2023)

No one shall fly UA in the UAE airspace without complying with the following requirements:

- (a) be 18 years minimum unless otherwise accepted by the GCAA or LAA, as the case.



- (b) have successfully completed UA training provided by UA training organisation approved by GCAA or LAA, as the case.
- (c) be UAE resident.

UAR.015 UA Pilot License (applicable from 1 January 2024)

- (a) No one shall operate UA in the UAE airspace unless he/she holds a UA pilot license issued by GCAA or LAA, as the case.
- (b) The applicant shall:
 - (1) be 18 years minimum unless otherwise accepted by the GCAA or LAA, as the case.
 - (2) have successfully completed UA training provided by UA training organisation approved by GCAA or LAA, as the case.
 - (3) be UAE resident.

UAR.020 Registration Cancellation or Ownership Transfer

The UA pilot shall cancel or change the ownership of the UA registration through the GCAA or LAA platform, as the case.

UAR.025 Flying Obligations

The UA pilot shall comply with following flying conditions:

- (a) Unmanned aircraft weight shall not exceed 5 kilograms
- (b) Vertical Operations shall be limited to 400 ft. height AGL
- (c) Operations shall be limited to day time
- (d) Horizontally operation range is restricted to within VLOS and
- (e) Direct radio control link shall be maintained between UA Pilot and the UA
- (f) UA pilot shall not violate individual's privacy.
- (g) No Goods shall be transported by air.
- (h) A flight shall be restricted to the fly zone indicated in the "GCAA Flying zone Map" which is available in the "My Drone Hub" mobile application";
- (i) UA Shall not be operated above people or near public or residential area and private properties and installations;
- (j) UA pilot shall not operate a UA in a manner which may cause safety risks to any other individuals, properties or aircraft.
- (k) UA pilot shall take all possible steps to avoid the air traffic and immediately ground the UA;



UAR.030 Emergency

In case of any accident or safety incident involving the UA, the UA pilot to inform the GCAA via 00971 506414667 immediately or LAA accident investigation team and local emirate police.

UAR.035 Prohibited Activities

- (a) Any modification to the UA or its component or system which may affect its initial functionality and specifications as per obtained LoC from MOIAT.
- (b) Installing or equipping UA with cameras or any other devices or equipment that may be used for filming or recording.
- (c) Flying over prohibited or restricted areas as indicated in fly zone in “My Drone Hub” mobile application.

UAR.040 UA Greater than 5 KG:

For use of unmanned aircraft having a mass greater than 5kg or fixed wings, a flight shall be restricted to the approved flying zones in the approved flying clubs.

UAR.045 Law Enforcement Action

During oversight inspection by GCAA or LAA or any law enforcement agency or any report, if the evidence indicates that the UA pilot has violated the provision of relevant federal decree or civil aviation law or GCAA regulation or relevant LAA publication, an enforcement action decision and deterrent action shall be applied against the violator.

GM to UAR.045 Law Enforcement Action

If violation and non-compliance detected, the UA pilot may be subject to one of the following deterrent actions:

- (a) An Administrative action may be taken where an authorised person violate a provision of this regulation. Administrative action can be:
 - Oral Counselling
 - Warning Letter
 - Suspension
 - Revocation
 - Detention, confiscate or Grounding of Unmanned Aircraft
- (b) A Judicial action involves the prosecution of an alleged offender in Civil Court. This usually involves contraventions under the Federal Decree Law (26) 2022.

UAR.050 Appeal Process

Appeal process initiated to allow applicant (UA pilot) who feels aggrieved by a decision (Administrative and/or Judicial action) made against them by the GCAA, the right to apply for an appeal against that decision.



Note: The scope of this process excludes any appeal related to aviation security (AVSEC)

GM to UAR.050 Appeal Process

The applicant (UA pilot) may appeal within 30 days from the date received the Notice of Law Enforcement Action). Guidance to the appeal process can be found in the GCAA website.