



DIRECTORS GENERAL

Outcomes of the 70th Special meeting of Directors General of Civil Aviation

Tirana/virtual, 26 -28 August — Air transport developments in Albania, recent EU developments - in particular on the Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the second half of 2021 - and developments in ICAO, including the main outcomes of the 223rd Council Session deliberations and European priorities and ambitions for the ICAO High-level Conference on COVID-19 (12-22 October 2021) were on the table for discussion at the 70th Special meeting of Directors General of Civil Aviation (DGCA/70(SP)).

The meeting was held over three days in Tirana in a hybrid format, with 57 Member State representatives joining the meeting on-site and 40 online, offering many Directors General the opportunity to meet in person for the first time in well over a year.

This was the first DGCA meeting chaired by Alessio Quaranta in his capacity as ECAC

President. He was joined by ICAO Secretary General Juan Carlos Salazar and Albanian Minister of Infrastructure and Energy, Belinda Balluku, who both addressed the meeting.

Ahead of next year's 41st session of the ICAO Assembly, the meeting discussed the elections to the ICAO Council and the high-level strategic ambitions for the Assembly. Directors General identified environment, COVID follow-up including crisis response and health safety, cyber security, and innovation as European strategic priorities for the Assembly.

EASA, EUROCONTROL and the ECAC Secretariat shared information on recent developments in safety, ATM and environment matters. ECAC Executive Secretary, Patricia Reverdy, and Deputy Executive Secretary, Mark Rodmell, provided updates on recent ECAC Secretariat activities, including the implementation of the CASE II Project, and forthcoming events such as ECAC Forum/14.

An innovative feature of the meeting was a high-level briefing on the long-term aspirational goal for international aviation (LTAG), delivered by César Velarde, ECAC Climate Change and Capacity-Building Specialist. Directors General welcomed the initiative and asked the ECAC Secretariat to prepare similar briefings on other subjects for future meetings. ■



COORDINATING COMMITTEE

ECAC Coordinating Committee members reflect on preparations for the 2022 ICAO Assembly

Tirana, 26 August — The members of the ECAC Coordinating Committee gathered for their 192nd meeting, which was held on the first day of the annual Special meeting of Directors General. Discussion focused on issues relating to the forthcoming ICAO Council elections and the European strategy for the 41st session of the ICAO Assembly in 2022. On upcoming ECAC events, the meeting endorsed the preparatory work for the joint ECAC/EUROCONTROL event on artificial intelligence that will take place in Brussels on 24 November 2021, and the ECAC Forum on the resilience of the air transport sector to crisis (ECAC Forum/14, 14 December 2021). ■



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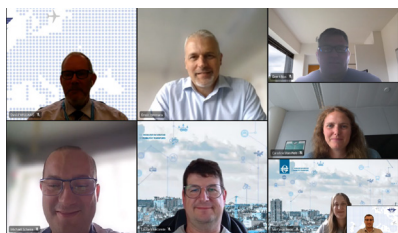
EMTO reviews work programme and the evolution of work methods in a post-COVID environment

Paris/virtual, 30 September — The ECAC Medium-Term Objectives Task Force (EMTO) reviewed the table presenting the status of implementation of the ECAC 2019-2021 work programme ahead of its submission to the Coordinating Committee (CC/193, 4 November 2021). The meeting endorsed the amended version of the ECAC risk register, subject to the inclusion of a few amendments suggested during the meeting. Having reviewed the quantitative and qualitative criteria adopted in 2017 to be used for the performance evaluation of ECAC's working groups - to be completed at the beginning of 2022 - the task force considered that overall these criteria were still valid. The meeting also discussed the evolution of the work methods of ECAC's groups in a post-COVID-19 environment. ■

SECURITY

Cyber security training for national auditors

24-26 August — Aviation security experts from the Belgian Civil Aviation Authority benefited from the ECAC Best Practices for National Auditors – Cyber Security (Basic) training course in August.



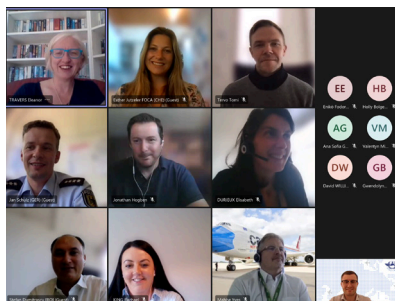
This virtual course offered participants the opportunity to gain a better understanding of the cyber security measures aimed at protecting critical aviation information and communications technology systems and data (used for aviation purposes) against cyber threats. It looked at the key actors and common cyber threats to civil aviation, as well as international and European requirements and recommendations for addressing these threats. Particular attention was paid to sharing best practices on inspecting the implementation of cyber security measures by regulated entities.

For more information on BPNA courses organised by ECAC for Member States, you are invited to contact Artem Melnyk, ECAC Aviation Security Capacity-Building Specialist (amelnyk@ecac-ceac.org).

New guidance material endorsed by aviation security experts

7-8 September — A new Annex to ECAC Doc 30, Part II (Security) providing guidance material on the use of shoe explo-

sive detection (SED) and shoe metal detection (SMD) equipment was endorsed by the ECAC Guidance Material Task Force at its 53rd meeting. The task force also endorsed the revised Annex to Doc 30 describing guidance material for vehicle examination, and the updated ECAC model National Civil Aviation Security Programme. Additional guidance material (e.g. for screening liquids, aerosols and gels; testing of explosive detections systems equipment; and the definition of "passenger" and "crew" from an aviation security perspective) should be finalised by the task force by the end of September.

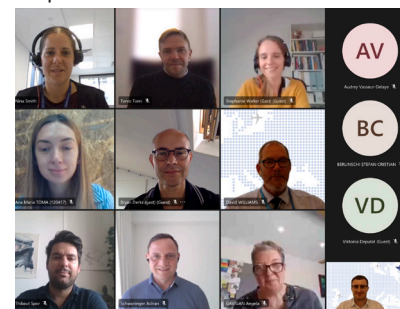


Members of the ECAC Guidance Material Task Force

New guidance material and best practices on aviation security training

9-10 September — The ECAC Training Task Force met virtually to discuss a range of new guidance material and best practices. A new training module on chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats, and the revised guidance material for the development and implementation of theoretical tests to certify aviation security screeners featured on the agenda. Discussions also focused on developing new guidance material for training (including assessment) in auditing techniques for national auditors, and on the updated ECAC Aviation Security Handbook documents on the training aspects of in-flight security for

crew members and independent validation. All these documents will be finalised by the task force for submission to the Security Programme Management Group for adoption.



Members of the ECAC Training Task Force

Security experts discuss behaviour detection best practices, research and training methodology

21-22 September — An overview of the main countermeasures for behaviour detection and best practices to address these countermeasures, common standards for research in behavioural analysis and deception detection in aviation security, and online training methodology for behaviour detection, were on the table for discussion at the 30th meeting of the Behaviour Detection Study Group.

The meeting was held virtually across two days. The participants reviewed progress on the research into the use of artificial intelligence for behaviour detection, and discussed the possibility of defining different levels and ways of providing mentoring on behaviour detection in aviation security. A new task will be included in the study group's 2022 work programme to improve the organisation and delivery of future mentoring activities.

Ad hoc meeting of the European Coordination Group on Aviation Security

28 September — Aviation security experts met virtually to plan aviation security inputs to the European contribution to the ICAO High-level Conference on COVID-19 (HLCC 2021), and security priorities for the 41st ICAO Assembly (A41), and to update

on other aviation security developments. More detailed work on inputs to HLCC and A41 will be taken forward in smaller groups in the coming weeks. ■

Third ECAC monthly familiarisation webinar on basic knowledge on aviation and the environment

8 September — The third in the series of monthly ECAC familiarisation webinars on basic knowledge on aviation and the environment was held in September. This session focused on a topic that will be crucial at the next ICAO Assembly in 2022: *Climate long-term aspirational goals (LTAG) for international aviation*.

The session sought to provide background information on the current technical work being developed in ECAC and ICAO, as well as the industry roadmaps aiming to achieve net-zero CO₂ emissions in aviation by mid-century. The key concepts and relevant differences in terminologies such as net-zero CO₂ emissions (or carbon neutrality), net-zero emissions (or climate neutrality), and carbon removals (or negative emissions) were clarified.

This ECAC activity is designed to strengthen the competencies and knowledge of experts dealing with environment matters in Member States and to promote awareness on key policy discussion topics. 31 participants from 14 States and organisations joined September's webinar.

The next webinar will be held on 6 October. It will address the interaction between the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and ICAO to address greenhouse gas emissions from international air traffic, in preparation for the 26th annual UN Climate Conference (COP26) in November.

Information briefing on environment aviation plans for COP26

15 September — The European Aviation and Environment Group - Expanded (EAEG Expanded) held an information briefing by the United Kingdom COP Presidency of its plans for aviation at COP26.

The briefing focused on the UK Presidency's initiative for an International Aviation Net-Zero Coalition. The initiative is aimed at a diverse and broad range of States, aiming to show how much State support there is for a net-zero consistent, long-term carbon reduction goal for international aviation, and thus showing support for ICAO adopting an ambitious long-term aspirational goal at its 41st Assembly. It is scheduled to be launched on Transport Day at COP26 (10 November 2021). States are encouraged to join the coalition in advance of COP26, but are welcome to do so until the 2022 ICAO Assembly.

With 64 participants from 30 ECAC Member States, and 3 European organisations, this EAEG Expanded information briefing allowed for fruitful exchanges and useful clarifications. This was the first meeting held under the new three-year mandate of Michael Lunter (Netherlands), appointed as the ECAC co-chair on 20 July 2021, together with his deputy co-chair Robert Mauri (France). ■



Facilitation sub-group reviews work programme and COVID-related immigration matters

Paris/virtual, 9 September — Experts assembling for the 52nd meeting of the Facilitation Sub-Group on Immigration reviewed the status of implementation of the sub-group's 2021 work programme, including the annual surveys, and agreed on a proposal for the 2022 work programme. The immigration-related outcomes of the ICAO Facilitation Panel meeting held earlier in the year (FALP/12, 13-23 July 2021) were also reviewed, as well as issues surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and the consequences for border and immigration matters such as flight restrictions, the use of Passenger Locator Forms and health declarations, and the resulting air carrier liability. The meeting was organised for the first time in a hybrid format, with six experts gathering in Paris and the remaining joining virtually.

Sub-group meeting, workshop and meeting with experts on PRM matters

29-30 September — The last week of September was busy for the members and observers in the PRM (persons with reduced mobility) field: the Facilitation Sub-Group on the Transport of PRMs met on 29 September, followed the next day by a workshop on the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on PRM services.

At the sub-group meeting, the participants reviewed the status of implementation of the group's 2021 work programme, developed a proposal for the 2022 work programme and evaluated the study groups' progress on various tasks assigned to them. The meeting discussed some amendments to ECAC Doc 30 Part I regarding health-related matters and the study group on this topic was tasked with assessing and further developing the proposals. The group also evaluated the PRM-related outcomes of the ICAO Facilitation Panel meeting held earlier this year and resulting actions for the sub-group.

On 30 September, the virtual workshop attracted over 60 participants. Across two sessions, it examined topics such as the hands-on experience of operators and service providers during the crisis, and the consequences for the regulatory aspects. The afternoon session featured an interactive exchange and open discussion with PRM service providers and experts. Many of the topics addressed during the workshop, such as PRM no-shows, recognition of PRMs, and more self-determination and customisation of services throughout the journey, will be considered for ECAC's future work in the sub-group. ■

European coordination on safety ahead of ICAO High-level Conference on COVID-19

31 August and 22 September — The European Safety and Air Navigation Coordination Group (ESANCG) met twice in August and September to review preparations for the upcoming High-level Conference on COVID-19 (HLCC 2021). ICAO briefed the group on the latest information and timelines for the conference. The ECAC Secretariat provided feedback from the Special meeting of Directors General held in Tirana on 26-28 August 2021 on the environment and sustainability papers, as well as some initial reflections on ECAC/EU coordination during HLCC 2021. ESANCG also reviewed and commented all safety-related papers with a view to having a common European approach during the conference. The next ESANCG meeting is scheduled to be held on 8 October 2021. ■

European coordination on economic matters

23 September — The European Coordination Group on Economic matters met for an update on the work being carried out in the small breakout groups of the informal Air Transport Regulation Panel (ATRP) and to prepare for the next informal ATRP meeting on 7 October 2021. The group also discussed coordination for the ICAO High-level Conference on COVID-19, which the economic experts will be involved in as needed, e.g. for papers with economic relevance in the facilitation and/or safety stream.

Looking further ahead, the group also began to reflect on the preparations for the next session of the ICAO Assembly (27 September - 7 October 2022), and initiated work to develop priorities and potential working paper proposals for Directors General consideration. ■



First joint ACAO/CASE II Project workshop on security culture in civil aviation

6-8 September — The first workshop of the CASE II Project jointly organised with the Arab Civil Aviation Organization (ACAO) focused on security culture in civil aviation. Approximately 60 experts attended this virtual event from 13 ACAO Member States. The wide range of presentations delivered to participants by experts from across the globe highlighted the breadth of issues related to promoting positive security culture in civil aviation: human factors, policy implementation and cyber security were amongst the subjects covered, and experiences were shared by practitioners representing both airports and airlines. The work-

shop also benefited from a contribution by ICAO offering guidance on the support available as part of the ICAO Year of Security Culture (YOSC). The final day was dedicated to a breakout session, providing an opportunity for participants to assess a case study and answer questions designed to prompt discussions of various aspects of security culture. For the latest CASE II information, you are invited to visit their dedicated website at <https://www.case-project.org/> and follow them on Twitter using Twitter handle @CASE_II_Project.

CASE II pilot activity on landside security vulnerability assessment in Morocco

Rabat, 27-29 September — In the last week of September, the CASE II Project delivered a new activity in relation to landside security vulnerability assessment. The event's significance lay in the fact it was the first in-country activity to be coordinated and delivered by the CASE II Project in the wake of travel restrictions applied as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

This pilot activity provided an introduction to the topic of landside security and was intended to examine the scope of related assessments so that participants develop the perspective required to undertake an effective review of landside security measures and potential vulnerabilities. Classroom activities were reinforced with a visit to Rabat-Salé Airport where the relevance of training topics could be associated with the physical airport environment. Participants came from a range of Moroccan State authorities,

each of which were involved in the national level aviation security risk committee. The activity was met with an enthusiastic and positive response from those involved and benefited from the kind support of the Arab Civil Aviation Organization through logistical support and the provision of classroom facilities. ■

For more information on the CASE II Project, visit:

<https://www.case-project.org/news/>



Participants in the CASE II pilot activity on landside security, Rabat

VISITS TO THE SECRETARIAT

ICAO Secretary General Juan Carlos Salazar meets ECAC staff

Paris, 30 August — Staff from the ECAC Secretariat met ICAO Secretary General, Juan Carlos Salazar, during his visit to the ICAO EUR/NAT offices in Paris. This was Mr Salazar's first visit to the Paris office since he assumed his role as Secretary General on 1 August. Addressing ECAC staff, Mr Salazar spoke of the importance of cooperation between organisations, giving examples from the way many bodies had risen to the challenge in working together to deal with the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the sector. He emphasised that he looks forward to having the opportunity to play a role in helping governments and the sector recover from the global pandemic.



Juan Carlos Salazar, Secretary General of ICAO in Paris

EUROCONTROL team visits ECAC in Paris

Paris/virtual, 29 September — A team from the EUROCONTROL HRS and finance departments visited ECAC in Paris for the first in-person meeting with all ECAC staff since the signature of the agreement concerning the provision by EUROCONTROL of administrative services to ECAC, in March 2020. A number of EUROCONTROL staff with whom the ECAC Secretariat works closely on a regular basis also joined the meeting virtually.

Executive Secretary Patricia Reverdy opened the meeting, thanking the EUROCONTROL team for all the support received since the entry into force of this agreement and reiterating the importance of the cooperation with EUROCONTROL. This meeting offered an opportunity to present the EUROCONTROL team with an overview of ECAC's history, structure, how the organisation functions and its activities. The presentations generated interest and a number of questions on ECAC's work, and the participants were unanimous that the meeting had been fruitful and a great opportunity to finally meet. ■



NEWS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

David Williams joins the Secretariat on a six-month secondment from the United Kingdom's Civil Aviation Authority where he worked as a national auditor, specialising in air carrier security. While at ECAC, David will be focusing on aviation security capacity building. He is keen to learn, contribute and embrace this opportunity of working with ECAC. ■



What's on in October?



Our mission is the promotion of the continued development of a safe, efficient and sustainable European air transport system

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Meetings in October are organised virtually unless indicated otherwise

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| 1 | 9 th meeting of the European Coordination Group on Facilitation matters (ECG-FAL/9) |
| 1 | 39 th COVID-19 European coordination meeting (ECM/39) |
| 5 | 41 st meeting of the ECAC Legal Task Force (LEGTF/41), Paris/virtual |
| 5 | 1 st meeting of the ECAC Network of Communication Specialists (NETCOM/1) |
| 5 | Ad hoc meeting of the European Coordination Group on Cyber Security (ECG-CS) |
| 6 | 4 th familiarisation webinar on basic knowledge on aviation and the environment (ENV-FAMWEB/4) |
| 6-7 | 34 th meeting of the Explosive Detection Dogs Study Group (EDD/34) |
| 13-14 | Workshop on UAS investigations |
| 14 | 55 th meeting of the Air Accident and Incident Investigation Group of Experts (ACC/55) |
| 19-20 | 51 st meeting of the Common Evaluation Process of security equipment Management Group (CEP-MG/51), Paris/virtual |
| 21-22 | 80 th meeting of the Technical Task Force (TTF/80) |
| 25-26 | 33 rd meeting of the Security Forum (SF/33) |
| 26-27 | 35 th meeting of the EAEG Aircraft Noise Modelling Task Group (EAEG/AIRMOD/35) |
| 28 | 62 nd meeting of the Facilitation Working Group (FAL/62), Paris/virtual |