



# ECACNEWSPPOINT # 04

European Civil Aviation Conference monthly news

## COORDINATING COMMITTEE

### ECAC Coordinating Committee reflects on support measures to Ukraine

**Paris/videoconference, 6 April** — The Coordinating Committee discussed the impact on civil aviation of the war in Ukraine and decided to extend support to ECAC Member State Ukraine through a series of financial and practical measures.

The Committee also agreed on follow-up actions to the ECAC Medium-Term Objectives (EMTO) Task Force's review of the performance of ECAC's working groups, concentrating on proposals for promoting development of talent through the work of the groups, ensuring greater consistency of approaches and structures, and promoting diversity in the chairing of and participation in groups.

In a busy meeting, the Committee also appointed Piotr Samson (DGCA Poland) as ECAC Focal Point for Safety; agreed on the presentation of new and revised strategic documents to Directors General at their 11 May meeting; received updates on the preparation of proposed European working papers for the 41<sup>st</sup> session of the ICAO Assembly, and on progress made in the implementation of the various diversity initiatives agreed by Directors in December 2021; and approved the proposed agenda for the Committee's coming meeting with the United States' authorities. ■

## FACILITATION

### Facilitation experts focus on PRM issues, immigration, and health matters

**Paris/videoconference, 7 April** — The Facilitation Working Group met in a hybrid format in Paris to look at the latest developments in the facilitation domain. The lessons learnt from the COVID-19 pandemic, and how to ensure the removal of the remaining travel restrictions continued to feature prominently in the discussion. Participants also shared experiences on the upcoming implementation of the EU Entry/Exit System (EES) and European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS).

On matters relating to passengers with reduced mobility (PRMs), the meeting approved an amendment to ECAC Doc 30, Part I on PRM health-related matters based on lessons learnt from the pandemic. The annual survey on PRM complaints and a revised version of the survey on air carrier liability were approved and will be launched soon.



Participants heard updates on health matters and on cargo and customs issues from the contact points in these areas, as well as on the latest industry developments from IATA, and were given an overview of the main outcomes of the Symposium on Assistance to Aircraft Accident Victims and their Families held in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria in December 2021. ■

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## Ninth monthly ECAC familiarisation webinar on basic knowledge on aviation and the environment

**6 April** — The ninth monthly ECAC familiarisation webinar on basic knowledge on aviation and the environment addressed the role of air traffic management in achieving aviation's climate goals.

The ECAC Secretariat introduced the webinar, recalling the effects of engine exhaust on the environment and on the climate and referring to the current ICAO discussion on the feasibility of establishing

long-term aspirational goals to tackle them, and how operational improvements can contribute to this.

EUROCONTROL presented examples of measures to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through air traffic management, such as optimised operations and airspace design, and highlighted that enhancing capacity also enhances efficiency.

The International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers' Associations (IFATCA) provided the air traffic controllers' views on how to reduce aviation's climate impacts. It emphasised the importance of ensuring that all the individual environmental factors are considered when establishing new procedures, and that training air traffic controllers plays a very important role.

## Fourth meeting of the Sustainable Aviation Fuels Task Group

**7 April** — The ECAC/EU Sustainable Aviation Fuels Task Group (SAF-TG) held its fourth meeting online. Inmaculada Gómez (Spain) in her capacity as ECAC co-rapporteur, and Magnus Gislev, co-rapporteur from the European Commission's DG MOVE, co-chaired the meeting.

Representatives from the World Economic Forum and the Energy Transitions Commission, who lead The Clean Skies for Tomorrow Coalition, an initiative to decarbonise global

aviation through promoting sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) and other next-generation technologies, were invited by the task group to join the meeting. They presented their SAF Policy Toolkit document, published in November 2021 and which has some similarities to the guidance material currently being developed by SAF-TG.

The meeting agreed to explore cooperation options to promote synergies and convergence among global initiatives with simi-

lar objectives, and to avoid duplication of efforts.

The meeting welcomed two new experts appointed by Finland. The task group now comprises 26 experts appointed by 13 ECAC Member States and five European organisations. Experts from other Member States are welcome to join the group!

## European participation in 2022 ICAO Global Aviation Dialogues on Long-term Aspirational Goal

**27 March-8 April** — The 2022 ICAO Global Aviation Dialogues on Long-term Aspirational Goal (LTAG-GLADs) were held in a series of five regional virtual events between 27 March and 8 April. The LTAG-GLADs aim to raise awareness on the technical work developed by the ICAO Committee on Aviation and Environmental Protection (CAEP) on LTAG, and facilitate the exchange of views amongst Member States, with the objective of facilitating a decision on LTAG at the 41<sup>st</sup> session of the ICAO Assembly.

ECAC Member States and the ECAC Secretariat joined different regional events to initiate a dialogue aimed at facilitating mutual understanding of views and concerns across regions, and providing European views on the feasibility of achieving a global ambitious long-term aspirational goal for international aviation.

The next milestone in the preparation of the Assembly discussions on this topic will be the High-level Meeting on LTAG that will take place from 20 to 22 July 2022, to consider the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction scenarios and options for LTAG, its means of implementation and monitoring progress.

## ECAC contributes to ICAO seminar on sustainable aviation fuels

**12 April** — The ECAC Secretariat delivered a presentation on sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) at a capacity-building activity for experts from African States, organised by the ICAO Western and Central African (WACAF) and Eastern and Southern African (ESAF) offices. More than 50 representatives of the WACAF and ESAF States followed the event online.

Representatives of ICAO regional offices, the Indonesian Directorate General of Civil Aviation, IATA and the two approved CORSIA Sustainability Certification Schemes also offered presentations on the topic.

The ECAC Secretariat provided an overview of the sustainability criteria approved by ICAO as part of the CORSIA Standard implementation elements and provided clarifications to the questions and comments raised by the participants.

Some of the key messages shared by several speakers were that sustainable aviation fuels, which are a fundamental element of any long-term decarbonisation strategy for international aviation, can bring social and economic opportunities to African States beyond its environmental benefits, and that all States might have the possibility to produce and use them. ■

## Study Group on Cyber Security in Civil Aviation

### **Bern/videoconference, 7-8 April** —

Topics discussed at the meeting of the ECAC Study Group on Cyber Security in Civil Aviation in April included competency-based cyber security training, risk management for the supply chain, cyber security standards for screening equipment and cyber oversight models.

A presentation by Martin Strohmeier (Armasuisse, Switzerland) demonstrated the great potential for close cooperation between academia and the aviation industry in making aviation more cyber resilient.

## Task force endorses guidance material

### **Paris/videoconference, 12-13 April**

— *Guidance on performance-based oversight: concepts and principles for best practices; Guidance on best practices for procedures for achieving one-stop security with another ECAC Member State; and Guidance material on screening liquids, aerosols and gels (LAGs) - revised ECAC Doc 30, Part II, Annex IV-4-E, were endorsed at the 55<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Guidance Material Task Force. Among other papers discussed by the task force was draft guidance on using an explosive trace detection (ETD) test kit: procedure for implementing independent testing by an Appropriate Authority, which will be finalised in May.*

The task force also looked at the common issues and challenges faced by Member States and observer organisations when



implementing new requirements on enhanced background checks, and agreed to update existing guidance material on background checks (ECAC Doc 30 Annex IV-1-A) to further support Member States in implementing these requirements.

## Belgian inspectors undergo training on covert testing

**Brussels, 5-7 April** — The Best Practices on Covert Testing training course held at the beginning of April was the first training course in the security domain organised by ECAC on-site in 2022. The course offered eight inspectors from the Belgian Civil Aviation Authority the opportunity to improve their knowledge of the covert testing methodology and test items for different areas of tests. The three-day activity covered best practices for developing test protocols, selecting the most appropriate test items, managing test items during their use, storage and transportation, and mitigating associated risks.

Through classroom activities and on-site practical activities organised at an airport and on the premises of a regulated agent, the participants acquired practical experience in conducting covert tests in different areas of aviation security, including concealing the test items, according to the established protocols and using the recommended approach.



## Cyber security training for national auditors

**19-21 April** — A Best Practices for National Auditors – Cyber Security (Basic) training course was organised online for national auditors from the Czech Republic and Finland.

The purpose of the course was to strengthen the auditors' understanding of common cyber threats to civil aviation, possible cyber attack on critical aviation systems scenarios, and cyber security measures, and to include this component in their national compliance monitoring activities. It covered an overview of cyber security organisational measures, including the basic principles of information security management systems and protection measures described in ECAC Doc 30, Part II - *Security*. The participants also reviewed best practices for preparing for and conducting inspections of cyber security measures in aviation.





## Austria hosts Best Practices for National Auditors – Level 1 training course

**Vienna, 25-29 April** — Aviation security auditors from Austria, Finland, Lithuania, Republic of Moldova and Slovakia gained a better understanding of their roles, powers and responsibilities as national auditors and strengthened their knowledge and competence in conducting national compliance monitoring activities, at this Best Practices for National Auditors – Level 1

training course. The training introduced the participants to inspection/audit methodology and techniques as well as to debriefing techniques, compliance assessment and report writing.

Through a combination of theoretical training, classroom activities and practical exercises at an airport, participants were introduced to best

practices in techniques for inspecting passenger and cabin baggage screening, passenger and baggage reconciliation, hold baggage screening and protection. The course also gave the auditors the opportunity to improve their knowledge of the main security technologies and their capabilities and limitations in detecting prohibited items.



## CEP participating test centres coordinate ahead of the CEP Management Group meeting

**7 April** — Within the framework of the initiatives agreed by the Common Evaluation Process (CEP) Management Group for 2022-2024, and in preparation for the 53<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the CEP Management Group (20-21 April 2022), representatives of the CEP participating test centres, the chair of the CEP Management Group and the ECAC Secretariat gathered online to discuss the progress of ongoing tests and the test centre available capacity for the third and fourth quarters of 2022. Other topics on the table for discussion were the status of implementation of the CEP harmonised protocols (report generators), measures to expand the capacity at CEP test centres, and the re-use of test data from previous tests to reduce the testing cost to manufacturers.

These coordination meetings will continue to be organised a few weeks ahead of each management group meeting.

## CEP Management Group agrees on roadmap

**20-21 April** — The ECAC Common Evaluation Process (CEP) Management Group concluded the discussions on the draft CEP roadmap 2022-2024 at its 53<sup>rd</sup> meeting, held online in April. Other topics covered at the meeting included finding feasible solutions for equipment manufacturers whose supply chain of potential critical elements could be impacted by the war in Ukraine, and progress made on the tray equivalence protocol and the appropriate designation for each tray.

The group also considered several implementation issues including the roadmap for implementation of the new performance standards 1.1/2.1 for walk-through metal detectors (WTMD), and the scope and frequency of the information to be provided to manufacturers regarding their ongoing tests and pending requests. ■



## Safety investigation authorities review accidents and serious incidents in the ECAC region

**Budapest/videoconference, 5 April** — The participants in the 56<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Group of Experts on Air Accident and Incident Investigation (ACC) heard brief presentations on a number of high-risk occurrences from Austria, France, Iceland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Spain, Turkey and the United Kingdom, as well as general observations by other ACC members on their open and closed investigations of civil aviation accidents and serious incidents.

Ukraine gave a presentation on the impact of the current situation on investigations conducted by the National Bureau of Air Accidents and Incidents Investigation (NBAAI). They also provided information on the state of flight safety in Ukraine (2021 vs 2022), as well as on the destruction of the fleet of Ukrainian civilian aircraft and airfields such as Gostomel, Korotych, Vinnitsa and many others. The ACC group reaffirmed their support for, and solidarity with friends and colleagues in the NBAAI, and expressed their readiness to assist the work of the NBAAI, circumstances permitting.

The ACC review of occurrences had resulted in an excellent summary of

occurrences and safety actions taken and recommended to address safety issues identified, and provided links to all the Final Reports. The subsequent review using the European Risk Classification Scheme (ERCS) methodology had identified the high-risk occurrences, key risk areas and associated safety recommendation topics. The summary of ECAC ACC occurrences for 2021, the associated spreadsheets, and the ERCS review paper were transmitted to ICAO, EASA, and the European Commission (DG MOVE) as a valuable resource.

Eighty-eight participants from 32 ECAC Member States, EASA, European Commission (DG MOVE), EUROCONTROL, IATA, ICAO and observer States and industry stakeholders joined the meeting.

The group agreed that the next meeting (ACC/57) would be held virtually on 19-20 October 2022, and noted with thanks Slovakia's offer to host one of the next in-person meetings. ■



## ECONOMIC MATTERS

### European participation in the ICAO Air Transport Regulation Panel

**11-15 April** — European members and observers attended the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ICAO Air Transport Regulation Panel (ATRP) held online in April. During the meeting, Mark Bosly from the United Kingdom was appointed as chair of the Panel.

Over four days, participants discussed liberalisation matters, the economic aspects of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), and

financial and economic recovery measures. European delegates largely supported continuing the work on the Convention on Foreign Investment in Airlines in a working group. The Panel established additional working groups to assess the economic aspects of UAS operations and to develop proposals on air cargo service liberalisation, which will form the bulk of the Panel's forthcoming work.



## Network of Chief Economists agrees on future focus

**21 April** — The members of the ECAC Network of Chief Economists (NCE) met virtually to consider the implementation of the group's 2022 work programme. Participants shared updates on statistical information and economic studies related to civil aviation in general, and in particular focused their attention on the

impact of the current crises (COVID-19, war in Ukraine).

The members agreed there were three main challenges facing the air transport sector and which the network should focus on in the future: the recovery from the pandemic crisis, the future financial

resilience of the whole system, and achieving sustainability. These topics will be presented to the next meeting of the Economic Working Group for a discussion on how to take forward any possible actions. ■

## What's on in May?

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| 4     | 10 <sup>th</sup> Familiarisation webinar on basic knowledge on aviation and the environment (ENV-FAMWEB/10), videoconference |
| 4-5   | 36 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Explosive Detection Dogs Study Group (EDD/36), Paris   |
| 10    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sustainable Aviation Fuels Workshop (ENV/SAF-WKSH/2), videoconference  |
| 11    | 158 <sup>th</sup> meeting of Directors General of Civil Aviation (DGCA/158), Paris/videoconference                           |
| 12    | 26 <sup>th</sup> meeting between the ECAC Coordinating Committee and the US authorities (CC/US/26), Paris                    |
| 16-18 | 5 <sup>th</sup> ECAC Environmental Forum (ENVFORUM/5), videoconference   |
| 19-20 | 50 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Training Task Force (TrTF/50), videoconference   |
| 20    | 5 <sup>th</sup> ECAC Environmental Forum (ENVFORUM/5) continued – closed session, videoconference                            |
| 24-25 | 35 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Security Forum (SF/35), London/videoconference   |



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

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