DIVERSITY

Inaugural meeting of the ECAC Network on Diversity and Inclusion

Videoconference, 27 January — Diversity and inclusion have become priorities in several industries, including the aviation sector. Recognising the importance of this, an ECAC Network on Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) in civil aviation was created in December 2022, with the main objective of promoting the sharing of knowledge and experience notably on how to leverage D&I for organisational excellence between representatives in ECAC Member States. A more diverse workforce will bring a wider range of perspectives, experiences and skills to the table, leading to better decision making, innovation and improved overall performance.

The participants discussed the work programme and activities of the group in 2023, and agreed to share national D&I initiatives and lessons learnt, develop good practices that would then be shared with all Member States, and create a comprehensive D&I strategy for ECAC. ◼

SECURITY

Inside

◼ Overview of ECAC's activities: focus on diversity, security and environment

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Guidance Material Task Force plans new guidance on technical innovations in 2023

Videoconference, 17-18 January — The Guidance Material Task Force held its first meeting of 2023 to discuss the division of tasks in its annual work programme.

The task force developed draft guidance material on Automated Prohibited Item Detection Systems (APIDS), which will be finalised by mid-February 2023.

It will develop several new guidance documents in 2023, including on:

- technical innovations and advanced technologies in aviation security;

- certification and acceptance testing of security equipment; and

- establishing an approved haulier regime for secure air cargo and mail.

In addition, more than 20 existing ECAC Doc 30, Part II – *Security* annexes and ECAC Aviation Security Handbook documents will be updated in 2023. ◼

Explosive detection dog experts consider 2023 priorities

Videoconference, 18-20 January — The Explosive Detection Dogs Study Group (EDD) gathered to review the outcomes of the group's 2022 activities and to consider its priorities for 2023.

Key activities in 2023 will include updating EDD documentation so that it will be more useful for Member States, and developing an EDD mentoring programme for Member States who wish to develop a new EDD programme.

Following the discussions at the EDD workshop that took place in Paris in November 2022, the study group agreed to have a look at the EDD threat list, which contains explosives to be detected by dogs, and to consider updating it in line with the latest developments in the explosives detection dogs field and in the field of other aviation security explosive detection equipment. ■
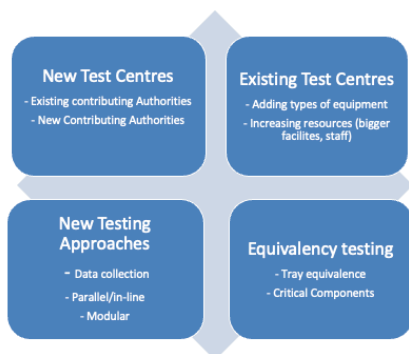

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Third CEP awareness training for ECAC Member State security experts

Videoconference, 30-31 January — More than 30 aviation security experts from 16 ECAC Member States attended the ECAC Common Evaluation Process (CEP) of security equipment awareness training webinar. The purpose of the webinar was to provide the attendees with a better understanding of the CEP, and its role in supporting Member States in their national certification/ approval of security equipment.

The webinar comprised two theoretical sessions:

Test Allocation (2/5)

New allocation & testing approaches

New Test Centres
- Existing contributing Authorities
- New Contributing Authorities

Existing Test Centres
- Adding types of equipment
- Increasing resources (bigger facilites, staff)

New Testing Approaches
- Data collection
- Parallel/in-line
- Modular

Equivalency testing
- Tray equivalence
- Critical Components

CEP Awareness Training/2

- an overview of the legal basis for establishing the CEP (i.e. administrative arrangements), its objectives, benefits and deliverables, key principles, and the main actors involved in its implementation; and

- a review of: the types of security equipment covered by the CEP, the categories of tests conducted within the CEP framework (e.g. Full Tests, Simulator Re-tests), the testing process, the test results, and the role of "CEP designees" in each Member State.
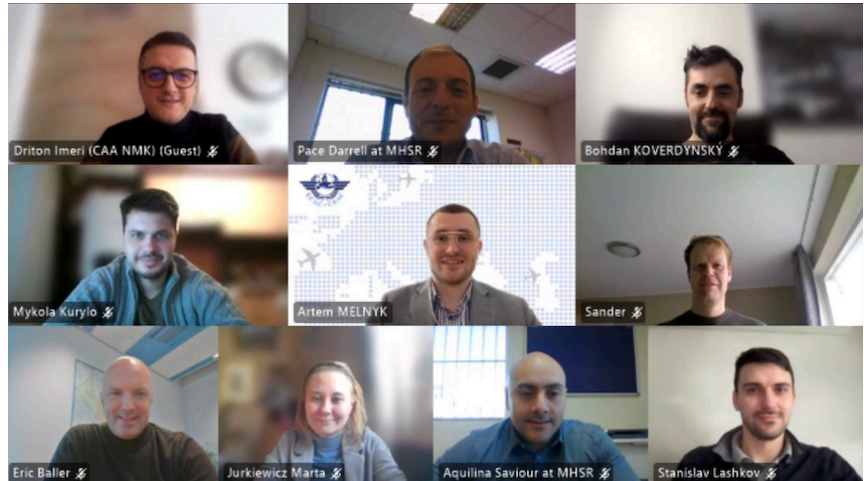
Particular attention was paid to understanding and interpreting CEP test reports, which are provided to all ECAC Member States several times a year.

First cyber training course in 2023

Videoconference, 10-12 January — Aviation security auditors from Malta, the Netherlands, North Macedonia and Ukraine attended an ECAC Best Practices for National Auditors – Cyber Security (basic) course conducted in virtual format.

The three-day course provided these auditors with a better understanding of ECAC Doc 30, Part II – *Security* recommendations on cyber security, including identification of critical aviation systems and data, and measures aimed at protecting these critical systems and data against cyber threats.

The key cyber threat actors, possible scenarios of cyber attacks on critical aviation systems, and key elements of cyber risk management were presented during the training. The course also familiarised participants with best practices for inspecting/auditing cyber security measures in aviation. ■

Focus on understanding sustainability requirements applicable to SAF at the monthly ECAC webinar on basic knowledge on aviation and the environment

Videoconference, 25 January — The 15th monthly familiarisation webinar on basic knowledge on aviation and the environment was dedicated to improving understanding of the sustainability requirements applicable to sustainable aviation fuels (SAF), and their certification process. It focused in particular on the CORSIA and EU Renewable Energy Directive (RED II) requisites.

The ECAC Secretariat presented an overview of existing sustainability criteria applicable to SAF, highlighting the last criteria approved by the ICAO Council in November 2022.

Guest speaker, Thomas Bock, team lead for Aviation & Maritime at the International Sustainability and Carbon Certification (ISCC), offered an overview of the key compliance differences between CORSIA and the EU RED II, and an outline of the sustainability certification process and ISCC approaches to assess compliance.

91 participants from ECAC Member States, organisations and stakeholders joined the webinar, which included an interactive Q&A session.

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Sustainable Aviation Fuels Task Group reviews draft SAF guidance

Videoconference, 23 January — The Sustainable Aviation Fuels Task Group reviewed the proposals from EAEG (Expanded) to improve the draft ECAC guidance on sustainable aviation fuels (SAF), which had been prepared by the task group and delivered in December 2022, and provided support to the EAEG (Expanded) co-chairs in incorporating those proposals into the draft for revision and final endorsement by ECAC Directors General.

Although the task group's initial remit had already been achieved, the co-chairs asked the group in addition to support EAEG (Expanded) in developing a proposal for an ECAC SAF policy roadmap by the end of February 2023, as requested by Directors General at their December 2022 meeting. The co-chairs invited feedback from the task group by 31 January. ■

Preparations begin for the 2023 ECAC/EU Dialogue with the air transport industry

Videoconference, 11 January — The steering committee established to prepare the 2023 ECAC/EU Dialogue with the European air transport industry held its first meeting in January. This year's Dialogue on sustainability in aviation will be held in Valencia, Spain, on 24 and 25 October. It will focus on the social, environmental and economic priorities surrounding sustainability.

The steering committee meeting gathered 17 experts from ECAC Member States, the European Commission, and industry representatives from Airlines for Europe (A4E), Airports Council International Europe (ACI EUROPE), Aerospace, Security and Defence Industries Association of Europe (ASD), Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO), European Regions Airline Association (ERA) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA). Participants shared their current priorities on sustainable aviation issues and proposed topics to consider including in the programme. They also considered the expected outcomes of the Dialogue, its budgetary issues as well as their role in the organisation of the event. Over the next few weeks, the committee will work together to build the conference programme, identifying presentation topics, speakers and moderators.

The next meeting will be held online on 14 February 2023. ■

Save the date in your calendars!

ECAC/EU DIALOGUE with the European air transport industry

Valencia, Spain, 24-25 October 2023

Deposit photos © vitalytitov

Further information will be available in the coming weeks. Please visit: www.ecac-ceac.org

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Vesna Pavlov joined the ECAC Secretariat on 30 January as a secondee from the North Macedonia civil aviation authorities, where she worked as an aerodrome advisor for 13 years and since 2020 as an aerodrome inspector. Vesna will be with ECAC for three months, and the main focus of her work will be on the Quality Assessment Programme for assistance to passengers with reduced mobility. Vesna will spend the first month as a virtual secondee working from her own country before joining the team in Paris at the end of February. This is the first time a virtual secondment arrangement has been used in the ECAC Secretariat.

ECAC Secretariat
3 bis, villa Emile Bergerat
92522 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France

Tel: +33 1 46 41 85 49
www.ecac-ceac.org
communications@ecac-ceac.org

🐦 @ECACceac   **Linked**in

What's on in February?

8-9	56th meeting of the Common Evaluation Process Management Group (CEP-MG/56), online
13	Informal meeting of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) contacts, Paris
14	2nd Steering Committee meeting to prepare the ECAC/EU Dialogue, online
15	65th meeting of the ECAC Medium-Term Objectives Task Force (EMTO/65), online
15-16	84th meeting of the Technical Task Force (TTF/84), online
20	ECAC-ICAO EUR/NAT regional workshop on assistance to aircraft accident victims and their families, Milan
22	58th meeting of the European Aviation and Environment Working Group – Expanded (EAEG/58-EXP), online
22	16th Familiarisation webinar on basic knowledge on aviation and the environment (ENV-FAMWEB/16), online
22-23	34th meeting of the Behaviour Detection Study Group (BDSG/34), online
23	71st meeting of the Facilitation Sub-group on Persons with Reduced Mobility (FAL-PRM-SG/71), online
28	2nd meeting of the Network on Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) in civil aviation, online