ECAC President joins global stakeholders at the Singapore Airshow Aviation Leadership Summit

*Singapore, 4-5 February* — ECAC President Ingrid Cherfils and Executive Secretary Salvatore Sciacchitano attended the 6*th* Singapore Airshow Aviation Leadership Summit on 4 and 5 February. Bringing together high-level participants from government regulators, the private sector and airline operators, this year the Summit looked at the key issues affecting commercial aviation. The Summit also presented the opportunity for a number of bilateral meetings. Ms Cherfils and Mr Sciacchitano discussed current issues with ICAO President Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu and ICAO Asia and Pacific Office Regional Director Arun Mishra. They also met with their AFCAC counterparts, as well as with Singapore Permanent Secretary of Transport Loh Ngai Seng, and Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore Director General Kevin Shum and Director of International Relations Eileen Poh, to examine ongoing and future areas of cooperation between Singapore and ECAC.

EASA and ECAC discuss collaboration opportunities

*Paris, 28 February* — ECAC Executive Secretary Salvatore Sciacchitano, Deputy Executive Secretary Patricia Reverdy and Environment and Technical Officer Béatrice Adoléhoumé met with EASA’s Strategy and Safety Management Director Luc Tytgat and International Cooperation Officer Krzysztof Kedzierski at ECAC’s offices to discuss opportunities for enhancing cooperation between the two organisations in the fields of aviation safety, security and the environment.

EMTO finalises ECAC’s 2019-2021 Work Programme

*Vienna, 16 February* — The 53*rd* meeting of the ECAC Medium-Term Objectives Task Force (EMTO), held in Vienna, focused on finalising the proposal for the ECAC 2019-2021 Work Programme. Chaired by Urs Haldimann (Switzerland), the task force also continued its discussions on budget-related matters and on the concept of ECAC associated body, which is included in the ECAC Constitution. A set of proposals on these issues will be presented to the next Coordinating Committee meeting on 28 March 2018.

Training Task Force implements 2018 Work Programme

*Paris, 1-2 February* — The ECAC Training Task Force (pictured below) met on 1 and 2 February for its 37*th* meeting. The group began work on a number of tasks included in its 2018 Work Programme. New topics it will focus on this year include best practices for training persons implementing security measures other than the screening of cargo and mail consignments, and guidance material for national competency tests for x-ray operators, which is intended to become a new Annex to Doc 30, Part II. The task force also began work on guidance material on factors to help improve screener motivation.
First meeting of the year for the Common Evaluation Process Management Group


The group, which assembles experts from the contributing authorities and test centres participating in the CEP, meets four times a year to endorse the latest test reports and allocate future CEP tests according to the CEP policy and procedures. The test results are posted on the ECAC website and are updated regularly.

Technical Task Force meets in Paris

Paris, 13-14 February — At the ECAC Technical Task Force’s 69th meeting on 13 and 14 February, participants considered amendments to the Common Testing Methodologies for explosive detection systems and explosive detection systems for cabin baggage.

Training on best practices for cargo inspectors in Amsterdam

Amsterdam, 13-15 February — National inspectors from eight ECAC Member States (pictured right) attended a best practices for cargo inspectors training course hosted by the Royal Marechaussee in Amsterdam. The course provided an introduction to the basic concept of the cargo security supply chain, with a specific focus on the role of the regulated agents and known consignors, and the screening and protection of cargo. The instructors from the Netherlands and the United Kingdom shared their experience in this field and some best practices in the preparation and conduct of inspections. They also reviewed common deficiencies that may be identified during cargo and mail inspections. The participants then had an opportunity to practice their skills during an inspection exercise undertaken at the premises of a regulated agent located close to Schiphol Airport.

Facilitation

Facilitation experts review developments for reduced mobility travellers

Paris, 15 February — The members and observers of the ECAC Facilitation Sub-Group on the Transport of Persons with Reduced Mobility (PRMs) gathered in Paris on 15 February for their 61st meeting. The meeting in particular looked at recent developments in facilitation issues for passengers with disabilities, the study groups’ progress on various topics, such as the harmonisation of call-point signage, and whether there was an interest in organising a workshop dedicated to PRM charges. The sub-group will continue to work on developing guidance material for PRM inspections and on organising the workshop on PRM charges in 2019. Two representatives of ANA - Aeroportos de Portugal gave a presentation on MyWay, a service implemented at Lisbon Airport that provides assistance to passengers with reduced mobility. The sub-group’s next meeting will be held on 21 September 2018.

Immigration issues in facilitation

Paris, 22 February — Recent developments in the implementation of Directive (EU) 2016/681 regulating the use of passenger name records (PNR), the establishment of the entry/exit system, the use of biometrics, as well as other relevant immigration issues were the focus of discussions at the 45th meeting of the Facilitation Sub-Group on Immigration matters held at ECAC’s offices. The participants (pictured right) reviewed the study groups’ activities and in particular a proposal on unaccompanied minors, and agreed on a number of surveys to be conducted in 2018, namely on API (advance passenger information) /PNR, on air carrier liability and on the use of biometric and automated border control (ABC) systems. The meeting welcomed the nomination of Evgheni Kostetki from Moldova for the role of chair of the subgroup. The group will meet again in Paris on 27 September 2018.
Training on best practices for national auditors in Jordan

**Amman, 28 January-1 February** — Eight Jordanian aviation security auditors from the Civil Aviation Regulatory Commission (CARC), as well as the country’s airports and airlines, participated in a level 1 best practices training course from 28 January to 1 February.

The two ECAC instructors recognised the commitment, knowledge and operational experience of the trainees, which allowed for stimulating discussions, as well as the strong support of staff at Queen Alia International Airport, which facilitated the organisation of practical exercises. The trainees were keen to apply the acquired expertise to their daily work, and the CASE Project team will continue cooperating with CARC to support aviation security in Jordan, particularly in the field of quality control.

Regional expert joins training team for CASE Project best practices for national auditors course

**Windhoek, 19-23 February** — The aim of the CASE Project to foster cooperation in capacity building between Partner States was achieved for the first time with the delivery of a best practices for national auditors (BPNA) level 1 training course in Windhoek, from 19 to 23 February. The two-person team of instructors came from ECAC and the South African Civil Aviation Authority.

Six participants from the Namibia Civil Aviation Authority attended the training, which aimed to strengthen auditors’ skills in conducting national compliance-monitoring activities such as audits and inspections, in particular through practical exercises conducted at both of Windhoek’s airports.

Regional workshop on security culture in Casablanca

**Casablanca, 27-28 February** — A workshop on security culture was held in Morocco on 27 and 28 February. This event marked the first to be jointly organised under the CASE Project by ECAC and its sister organisation, the Arab Civil Aviation Commission (ACAC), which also hosted the event. Eleven Partner States including, for the first time, representatives of Bahrain, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia, participated in this regional activity, which involved a mix of presentations, breakout sessions and collective discussions. Speakers came from ACAC and the civil aviation authorities of Spain, the United Kingdom, Kenya, the United States, as well as Ryanair and ACI.
ECAC visits EUROCONTROL’s Experimental Centre

Brétigny-sur-Orge, 14 February — Staff from the ECAC Secretariat were warmly welcomed by a team of air traffic management (ATM) experts at EUROCONTROL’s Experimental Centre in Brétigny-sur-Orge, where research and development activities to help improve the European ATM system’s safety and performance are carried out. After a general introduction to the experimental centre by head of research, Pierre Andribet, ECAC staff were shown demonstrations of various ongoing projects, including the integration of large remotely piloted aircraft systems in civil airspace, airspace study through simulations, future improvements of airport surface management, future network manager working positions and the user driven prioritisation process. Many thanks to the ATM team for a very interesting and eye-opening afternoon!

What’s on in March?

1  55th meeting of the Facilitation Working Group (FAL/55), Paris
6  21st meeting of the ad hoc coordination group on security, Brussels
6-7  EaP/CA workshop on cargo and mail security, Paris
12-13  19th meeting of the Behaviour Detection Study Group (BDSG/19), Paris
14  21st meeting of the European ad hoc group on economic regulation, Madrid
14-15  28th meeting of AIRMOD (EAEG-AIRMOD/28), Brussels
15  6th meeting of the Economic Working Group (ECO/6), Madrid
28  181st meeting of the Coordinating Committee (CC/181), Paris

Secretariat activities