

ECAC NEWS POINT

European Civil Aviation Conference monthly news



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► News from the Secretariat and the ICAO Europe and North Atlantic Office

Departure of the Executive Secretary

At the end of the month, ECAC staff said goodbye to Executive Secretary Salvatore Sciacchitano, whose eight-year tenure came to an end on 31 January. Since 2010, Mr Sciacchitano's commitment to supporting the 44 Member States, developing ECAC's activities, strengthening relations with regional and international organisations, and improving efficiency has contributed to a greater stability and continuity for the organisation. Patricia Reverdy will assume the role of Acting Executive



Secretary until the appointment of a new Executive Secretary. Ms Reverdy will retain her responsibilities as Deputy Executive Secretary during this period of transition.

Mr Sciacchitano will not be leaving the ICAO family, however, as he joins the ICAO Council in Montreal in February as head of the Italian delegation. We wish him the very best in his new functions!

New Regional Director at ICAO EUR/NAT Office

ECAC is delighted to welcome the new ICAO Europe and North Atlantic (EUR/NAT) Regional Director, Silvia Gehrler, who took up her functions in the Paris office on 1 February.

Prior to becoming Regional Director, Ms Gehrler served as Director General International at the Austrian Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology, and was a member of the ECAC Coordinating Committee and Focal Point for Economic matters.

ECAC looks forward to cooperating with Ms Gehrler and wishes her every success in her new role. ■



► Outreach activities

ECAC participates in joint Africa-Europe task force on aviation

Brussels, 24 January — The European Commission's DG MOVE, together with the African Union, organised the first meeting of the transport task force on aviation.

Cooperation with the African continent has been identified by the president of the European Commission as one of the most pres-

sing priorities for the European Union. In the context of the new Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs, the Commission has set up four task forces to identify concrete areas of economic cooperation between the two continents, in order to create sustainable jobs and growth. One of these task forces is dedicated to transport and includes a cluster on aviation and connectivity.

By June 2019, the transport task force aims to provide operational recommendations for the establishment of a Single African Air Transport

Market, which was officially decided by the African Union in January 2018, and will address connectivity with the European market.

Due to its longstanding cooperation with Africa and its regional and subregional organisations, including in the implementation of the CASE Project, ECAC was amongst the key partners invited by the Commission to be part of this brainstorming. CASE Project Coordinator Antoine Zannotti represented ECAC at the meeting, contributing to the initial drafting of recommendations. ■





Guidance Material Task Force, Paris, 31 January - 1 February

First Technical Task Force meeting of 2019

Paris, 14-15 January — Amendments to the ECAC Common Testing Methodologies for explosive detection systems, explosive detection systems for cabin baggage and explosive vapour detection equipment were high on the agenda at ECAC's 72nd Technical Task Force meeting. The task force also endorsed a new Common Routine Testing Methodology for metal detection equipment.

The meeting featured a number of presentations on several projects, including exploratory research on detecting sheet explosives in laptops, a new hold-baggage screening approach in Israel, and an innovative screening system for cargo that was presented by Smartscan 3D. ACI EUROPE gave the meeting an overview of the deployment of explosive detection systems for cabin baggage at European airports.

This was the last meeting to be chaired by Gael Weidmann (DGAC France), who will join the ECAC Secretariat on 1 April 2019 as the new ECAC Aviation Security Technical Officer.

Cyber security experts review best practices and guidance material

Paris, 16 January — The ad hoc group on the cyber security aspects of screening equipment held its second meeting at ECAC's offices on 16 January. Working under the umbrella of the ECAC Study Group on Cyber Security in Civil Aviation and the ECAC Technical Task Force, the group has been tasked with developing best practices on the cyber security aspects of screening equipment for inclusion in the ECAC Aviation Security Handbook. The group made good progress with its work and expects to present a first version of the best practices to the Security Forum at its May meeting.

Paris, 16-17 January — The Study Group on Cyber Security in Civil Aviation began an in-

depth analysis of the ECAC guidance material on cyber security in civil aviation with a view to updating and improving it. Issues discussed included the influence of cyber threats on the aviation information infrastructure, including the impact on business continuity, and the increasingly complicated coordination of cyber security measures being implemented across the numerous different regulatory frameworks.

Common Evaluation Process Management Group meets in Paris

Paris, 24 January — At its 40th meeting, the Common Evaluation Process (CEP) Management Group agreed on the way forward for the harmonisation of all seven Common Testing Methodologies used in the CEP. It also explored issues such as the requirements for the performance of Simulator Re-Tests by "non-Full Test" test centres, the possible rolling endorsement of test reports, and the enhanced harmonisation of procedures for handling configuration change management requests. Discussions on these areas of possible improvement to the CEP will continue at the management group's next meeting at the end of April.

Training on covert testing in Istanbul

Istanbul, 29-31 January — ECAC delivered its third training course on best practices in covert testing, for the benefit of the Turkish Directorate General of Civil Aviation, the National Police, and training, research and inspection units from various airports in Turkey responsible for implementing covert testing in the country.

The aim of this course is to provide Member States with the best practices and tools necessary to develop and efficiently



implement their national covert testing programmes. Featuring a combination of training techniques, including lectures and practical exercises, the three-day activity enabled the participants to become familiar with the key principles of the robust and efficient covert testing programme at national level, and good practices in implementing covert testing techniques.

Guidance Material Task Force meets in Paris

Paris, 31 January-1 February — The Guidance Material Task Force held its first meeting of the year at ECAC's offices, led for the first time by the group's new chair, Eleanor Travers (Ireland). The meeting looked into reorganising its working methods for 2019, and made significant progress on a number of on-going tasks, including the development of guidance material on airport identification cards and on the alarm-resolution process of EDS (explosive detection systems) Standard 3. The task force also initiated work on new tasks, including the development of guidance on internal quality control best practices in aviation security, and on management systems for aviation security occurrences and trends. ■



Above and top: Best Practices in Covert Testing, Istanbul, 29-31 January

► Safety

Inaugural meeting of the European Safety and Air Navigation Coordination Group

Brussels, 11 January — The first meeting of the new European Safety and Air Navigation Coordination Group took place at EASA's offices on 11 January. The group was established by decision of ECAC Directors General during DGCA/151 in December 2018 as a permanent group in charge of European coordination in the safety and air navigation domains, including for the preparation of major ICAO events.

The main purpose of the inaugural meeting was to begin preparations for the 40th Session of the ICAO Assembly. The group continued its work via video conference on 28 January. The next (video conference) meeting will be on 6 February. ■

► Facilitation

Meeting of the Facilitation Programme Management Group

Paris, 18 January — The Facilitation Programme Management Group met in Paris on 18 January following a four-year break. The meeting was chaired by the ECAC Focal Point for Facilitation and Security, Alessio Quaranta (Italy) and attended by the chairs and deputy chairs of the Facilitation Working Group and its sub-groups (pictured).

Discussions mainly focused on reviewing the activities in the facilitation field during the 2016-2018 triennium, key issues that could arise in the 2019-2021 triennium, and European priorities and potential topics for papers for the 40th ICAO Assembly.

The meeting appointed Teresa Antunes (Portugal) for a second mandate as chair of the Facilitation Sub-group for the Transport of Persons with Reduced Mobility, and considered the steps to be taken to appoint the deputy chairs of the Facilitation Working Group and the sub-group on immigration. ■



► CASE Project

Three new Partner States from the Maghreb region

Tunis, 7-11 January and 28 January – 1 February — Two «Best Practices for National Auditors - Level 1» (BPNA1) training courses were delivered this month in Tunis by the CASE Project.

The trainees on the first course (pictured below) included two auditors each from Algeria and Morocco, in addition to four from Tunisia. For all three States, the training represented their first involvement with the Project at national-activity level.

Three instructors conducted the BPNA1, one of whom, Artem Melnyk, is an aviation security expert recently seconded to the CASE Project team from Ukraine, as highlighted in the previous issue of News Point. He and the CASE Project's own aviation security technical specialist, Luís Moço, also delivered the second course two weeks later, this time exclusively to a group of eight Tunisian auditors.



Covert security testing in Namibia

Windhoek, 22-24 January — A three-day mentoring activity focusing on covert testing was delivered by the CASE technical specialist and both aviation security experts currently on secondment to the Project (cf News Point December 2018).

Fourteen security officials and inspectors selected from the Namibian CAA, the national airport company, police and intelligence services participated in this activity, which comprised classroom training and the organisation of tests conducted on different aspects of aviation security.

This CASE Project mission served to support the enhancement of Namibia's existing covert test protocols and practices, generating high levels of engagement and resoundingly positive feedback from the participants. ■



CASE Project, covert testing, Windhoek, 22-24 January

► EaP/CA Project

Training for cargo inspectors at Schiphol Airport

Amsterdam, 29-31 January — The third training course on best practices for cargo inspectors was conducted from 29 to 31 January at Schiphol Airport.

The three-day activity, facilitated with the assistance of the National Coordinator for Security and Counterterrorism and hosted by the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee, provided experts from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova and Ukraine with the opportunity to become familiar with international and European cargo and mail security requirements and best practices in conducting oversight activities in this field. Comprising a combination of training techniques, including practical activities, the course was designed to reinforce the participants' knowledge and skills in inspecting the implementation of cargo and mail security measures.

Thanks to the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee and Dnata air cargo, the course included a visit to a cargo regulated agent facility where participants conducted practical activities aimed at developing their expertise in monitoring the implementation of cargo and mail security measures. ■



EaP/CA Project, cargo inspectors, Amsterdam, 29-31 January

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What's on in February?

- 4-8 EaP/CA Best Practices for National Auditors – Level 1 (EaP/CA/BPNA1/1), Kyiv
- 4-15 European Aviation and Environment Working Group daily meetings during CAEP/11 (CAEP/11-EAEG), Montreal
- 5-6 22nd meeting of the Behaviour Detection Study Group (BDSG/22), Paris
- 6-7 26th meeting of the Explosive Detection Dogs Study Group (EDD/26), Paris
- 6 2nd meeting of the European Safety and Air Navigation Coordination Group (ESANCG/2), conference call
- 7 35th meeting of the Legal Task Force (LEGTF/35), Paris
- 12 1st meeting of the European coordination group on aviation security matters (ECG-AS/1), Paris
- 12-14 4th Recurrent Training for National Auditors (RTNA/4), Luxembourg
- 13-14 Workshop for Cargo Security Managers, Riga
- 18-19 CASE Project Technical Seminar, Brussels
- 18-22 EaP/CA Best Practices for National Auditors – Level 1 (EaP-CA/BPNA1-2), Riga
- 19 ECAC/ACI EUROPE Workshop on PRM (Persons with Reduced Mobility) Charges, Brussels
- 20 63rd meeting of the Facilitation Sub-Group on Persons with Reduced Mobility (FAL-PRM Sub-Group/63), Brussels
- 21 1st meeting of the European coordination group on economic matters (ECG-ECO/1), Brussels
- 25-26 6th Europe – Asia-Pacific Aviation Security Forum, Paris
- 26-28 12th Best Practices for Cargo Inspectors Course (BPCI/12), Istanbul