

ECAC NEWS POINT

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Directors General

Last meeting of 2019 for ECAC's Directors General

Paris, 11 December — Directors General were joined by observers EASA, the European Commission, the ICAO EUR/NAT regional office and JAA TO for their last meeting of the year at the ECAC premises in Paris.

The meeting examined the outcomes of, and lessons learnt from, the 40th session of the ICAO Assembly. Europe's achievements in the various fields of activity and the necessary follow-up actions were reviewed, and Directors General discussed the election of the eight European representatives to the ICAO Council. Discussions also covered the successful election of Salvatore Sciacchitano (Italy) as President of the ICAO Council and Nabil Naoumi (Germany) as President of the Air Navigation Commission in November.

Samuli Vuokila, the representative of Finland (NORDICAO) on the ICAO Council, provided

New appointments:

- Mark Bosly (United Kingdom) was confirmed as chair of the Economic Working Group and as co-chair of the European Coordination Group on Economic Matters for a first three-year mandate.
- Machteld Cambridge (Netherlands) was appointed as deputy chair of the Legal Task Force for a first three-year mandate.

Directors General with an overview of developments at ICAO since the Assembly and discussions at the 218th Council Session, while Silvia Gehrler, ICAO European and North Atlantic (EUR/NAT) Regional Director, outlined her office's activities in 2019 and plans for 2020. The meeting heard updates on the status of current aviation topics at the European Union level, with briefings from the current (Finland) EU Council Presidency as well as the European Commission.

On safety and ATM matters, EASA spoke about the challenges regulators face with rapidly

evolving innovative technologies and EASA's approach to managing these challenges. EUROCONTROL provided facts and figures on 2019 traffic figures and delays in Europe, and presented the network management measures undertaken by the organisation, informing the meeting that the new network management system (iNM) should start in February 2020.

Having reviewed ECAC's achievements in 2019 in all fields of activity (economic, environment, external relations, legal matters, Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems, safety and accident investigation, security and facilitation, and the ECAC Medium-Term Objectives Task Force (EMTO)) and the priorities for 2020, the meeting adopted new rules of procedure and amended terms of reference for EMTO, as well as amended rules of procedure for the Economic Working Group, to bring them into line with those of other ECAC working groups.



Departures:

Directors General extended a fond farewell to retiring Directors General Pekka Henttu (Finland) (*left*) and Bruno Lassagne (Monaco) (*far right*), attending their last DGCA meeting. ECAC wishes them all the best in the next chapter of their lives!

