



# ECAC NEWSPOINT # 01

European Civil Aviation Conference monthly news

## OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

### ECAC President meets with CANSO and EBAA

**21 January** — ECAC President Alessio Quaranta, and Executive Secretary Patricia Reverdy met virtually with CANSO representatives Michiel Van Dorst, CEO of LVNL, and Tanja Grobrotek, CANSO Director Europe Affairs, to discuss matters of common interest to both organisations. Topics on the agenda included global ATM performance in Europe, innovation, the environment, and the integration of drones in airspace. Ways to enhance cooperation at both technical and more political levels were also explored under the existing framework of the Cooperation Arrangement between ECAC and CANSO signed in 2014, and the two parties will continue their discussions in the coming months.

**27 January** — A fruitful exchange of information took place between ECAC President Alessio Quaranta and Executive Secretary Patricia Reverdy, and European Business Aviation Association Secretary General Athar Husain Khan and Senior Manager European Affairs David Grivet, at the end of January. The exchange was an excellent opportunity to learn more about the evolution of the business aviation value chain in the last two to three years, and its commitments on environment and technology development. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic was also discussed, as well as the role (e.g. medical evacuation flights) and priorities of business aviation.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Sustainable Aviation Fuels Task Group agrees 2022 work programme

**20 January** — The ECAC/EU Sustainable Aviation Fuels Task Group held its second meeting in January to agree on a work programme and timeline for 2022.

Co-chaired by co-rapporteurs Inmaculada Gómez (Spain) and Magnus Gislev (European Commission's DG MOVE), the group set a tentative objective to produce a best practices guidance document to support sustainable aviation fuels in ECAC Member States, with the intention of presenting it to Directors General for endorsement by the end of the year. During the meeting, the group agreed on the outline and general content of this guidance document.

The SAF task group was launched in December 2021 and comprises 25 experts from 12 ECAC Member States and five European organisations.

### European Aviation and Environment Working Group prepares for ICAO CAEP/12

**17, 19, 26 and 31 January** — Preparations for the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ICAO Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (CAEP/12) continued in January in the European Aviation and Environment Group (EAEG). Participants exchanged views on the working papers posted for CAEP/12, prepared briefing material, and discussed general issues relating to CAEP. ■



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## Guidance Material Task Force reviews 2022 work programme

**11-12 January** — The ECAC Guidance Material Task Force met virtually to review the division of tasks in the group's 2022 work programme. Tasks for 2022 will include developing new guidance material on using an explosive trace detection (ETD) test kit, performance-based oversight, achieving one-stop security with another ECAC Member State, and best practices for risk assessment methodologies and vulnerability assessments. The group will also be looking at updating existing guidance on hold baggage screening, alarm resolution of explosive detection

systems (EDS) equipment, access control and perimeter protection. Particular attention was paid during the meeting to discussing the task force's strategy for the next triennium.

A paper on guidance for managing protests at regulated sites of airports, aimed at providing Member States with policy guidance on how to promote a coordinated and appropriate response to security risks arising from such protests, was among the working papers reviewed at the meeting.

## Second edition of the ECAC Common Evaluation Process awareness training

**27-28 January** — ECAC training activities kicked off in 2022 with the second edition of the ECAC Common Evaluation Process (CEP) awareness training, organised for experts from Cyprus, Ireland, Lithuania and Switzerland.

This course is designed to offer Member States a better understanding of the CEP objectives, deliverables and benefits, and guidance to support them in approving and/or certifying security equipment.

The webinar also presented the key principles of the CEP as well as the roles and responsibilities of the key parties involved in its implementation. The participants looked at the various CEP tests for each type of equipment, how to interpret test reports, and the role of CEP designees.



### Objective and Benefits

Common Evaluation Process of security equipment (CEP):

- A laboratory testing programme of security equipment against ECAC/EU performance standards
- Provides harmonised technical information and a common reference for MS to approve security equipment
- Helps to avoid duplication of efforts within ECAC region
- Provides a reliable, transparent and harmonised framework for manufacturers of security equipment
- Wider international community (non-ECAC MS and industry stakeholders) benefit from the CEP

CEP Awareness Training/1

## CEP participating test centres meet in preparation for the 52<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the CEP Management Group

**20 January** — As part of the initiatives agreed by the CEP Management Group for 2022-2024, a small group comprising representatives of the CEP participating test centres and the ECAC Secretariat gathered to consider several issues ahead of the 52<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the CEP Management Group (2-3 February 2022). Topics discussed included the progress of ongoing tests and the challenges encountered by the test centres, the available capacity for the third quarter of 2022, and measures to increase the current capacity for testing explosive detection systems (EDS) for both hold and cabin baggage.

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

## LEGAL MATTERS

### European legal experts prepare for 38<sup>th</sup> session of the ICAO Legal Committee

**13 January** — ECAC's Legal Task Force met virtually to prepare for the 38<sup>th</sup> session of the ICAO Legal Committee (LC/38), which is scheduled to be held from 22 to 25 March 2022.

Under the leadership of the newly appointed chair, Frankie Deckers (Belgium), the task force discussed the progress made by the various working groups reporting to the Legal Committee, and the European priorities for the meeting. ■

## European coordination ahead of 41<sup>st</sup> ICAO Assembly

**18, 20, 25, 27 and 28 January** — The European coordination groups across various domains (safety, aviation security, facilitation, economic matters and cyber security) met in January to discuss the preparations for the 41<sup>st</sup> session of the ICAO Assembly (beginning 27 September 2022).

All of the groups considered the outcome of the ECAC Directors General meeting on 15 December 2021 (DGCA/157), at which Directors General discussed the proposed European

working papers and gave guidance on the prioritisation of topics.

The coordination groups have each established small drafting groups to refine and develop the proposals for working papers, and to begin outreach to other States and regions that may be considering bringing forward papers on the same topics.

In addition, an ad hoc joint coordination group was established on 20 January to lead the coordination of three

cross-domain topics. Coordination on environment matters is currently being taken forward on its own timetable as it is dependent on the outcome of global environment meetings.

The drafting groups will meet in February and will present the final drafts to the respective coordination groups for review, before the texts are presented to Directors General for final approval. ■

## UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS

### First informal meeting of the ECAC UAS network of national contact points

**27 January** — With the objective of bringing together the ECAC network of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) points of contact to exchange information on UAS-related work in their States and engage in interactive discussion, an informal meeting was organised at the initiative of the ECAC Focal Point for UAS, Elisabeth Landrichter (DGCA Austria).

Over 30 national experts joined this kick-off meeting. Discussions focused on sharing national priorities, including the implementation of the new EU regulations and U-space development, and reviewing the challenges encountered by States, and potential solutions.

The experts welcomed this initiative, and expressed an interest in organising further meetings — with a more focused agenda — to continue the exchange of information and expertise, acknowledging that this should not duplicate the work of other organisations and groups. ■



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## European coordination on COVID-19

**17 January** — Directors General of ECAC Member States and representatives of the European Commission, EASA and EUROCONTROL assembled online for the first COVID-19 European coordination meeting of the year. They heard updates from EUROCONTROL on traffic developments across Europe, and in particular on the current travel measures, restrictions and possible upcoming changes.

While some traffic had recovered at the end of 2021, the meeting noted the sharp

drop over the two previous weeks. This was because of the additional measures imposed by many governments following the emergence of the Omicron variant, which had shaken consumer confidence and weakened market demand.

The European Commission representative briefed participants on the Commission's discussion on new measures. He underlined that the Council recommendations on internal and external travel were likely to be updated in the coming week(s) for adoption of a new common approach.

Members States shared information on measures in their own countries. They were invited to provide input on how they expected these national measures to develop in the coming weeks, to see if there was a general direction among the States that would allow for consistent approaches to be taken. ■

## NEWS FROM THE ECAC SECRETARIAT

### New arrivals at ECAC and the CASE II Project



**Sandra Fleury** joined the ECAC Secretariat on 17 January as Administrative/Financial Assistant. Before joining ECAC, Sandra worked for five years at the European Investment Bank in Luxembourg as a senior operational assistant and in the recruitment of IT profiles for the European institutions.

Sandra is looking forward to working with the ECAC Secretariat and is eager to provide her support to the organisation's various administrative and financial activities.

**Miguel Martín** joins the CASE II Project team for a six-month secondment from the Spanish Aviation Safety and Security Agency (AESA). Miguel has four years of experience as an aviation security inspector at AESA, where for the last year he specialised in security equipment. He has previously represented Spain in the ECAC Common Evaluation Process for security equipment Management Group and the ECAC Technical Task Force, and now looks forward to assisting CASE II in developing and delivering capacity-building activities in Partner States across Africa, the Middle East and Asia. ■



## What's on in February?

- 1 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Study Group on Cyber Security in Civil Aviation (CYBER/42)
- 2 7<sup>th</sup> Familiarisation webinar on basic knowledge on aviation and the environment (ENV-FAMWEB/7)
- 2-3 52<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the ECAC Common Evaluation Process Management Group (CEP-MG/52)
- 15-16 31<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Behaviour Detection Study Group (BDSG/31)
- 22-23 20<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the group of ECAC-certified aviation security auditors (AUD/20)
- 23-24 81<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Technical Task Force (TTF/81)



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

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