



DIRECTORS GENERAL

Focus on European priorities and ambitions for the 41st ICAO Assembly at Directors General meeting in Sorrento

Sorrento/videoconference, 25-27 August — President of the Italian Civil Aviation Administration (ENAC), Pierluigi di Palma, welcomed the Directors General of Civil Aviation to Sorrento for their annual Special meeting (DGCA/71(SP)), where they were joined by observers from the European Commission, EUROCONTROL, EASA, the ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Office and JAA TO.

As this was the last gathering of ECAC Directors General before the 41st ICAO Assembly, strategic discussions focused on European priorities to be brought to the international arena, and on the upcoming ICAO Council elections. ICAO Council representatives of France, Italy, Greece and the Netherlands briefed the meeting on the outcome of the 226th session of the ICAO Council and on priorities for forthcoming discussions in the Assembly, while the ICAO EUR/NAT regional director gave an overview of upcoming regional activities.

On ECAC-specific issues, Directors General reconfirmed the added value of the ECAC Common Evaluation Process of



security equipment (CEP) to all Member States and adopted a CEP roadmap for 2022-2024, supported the proposal for a one-year no-cost extension of the CASE II Project, and agreed to organise a joint ECAC-ICAO EUR/NAT regional workshop on assistance to aircraft accident victims and their families on 20 February 2023 in Italy. They heard updates on EU aviation developments from the European

Commission, while the Director General of Civil Aviation of Czechia, whose country holds the EU Presidency for the second half of 2022, briefed the meeting on Czechia's objectives during its tenure of the Presidency. EASA and EUROCONTROL presented their organisations' recent developments, and JAA TO gave an update on the organisation's training activities.

Familiarisation course for Directors General

Videoconference, 12-13 July — A familiarisation course providing information and key facts on ECAC's history, organisation and activities was held online in July. Designed for recently appointed Directors General and their team members who coordinate ECAC and other international matters, this 11th run of the course was also open to newly appointed chairs and deputy chairs of ECAC's working groups, to enable them to become more familiar with all ECAC's domains of activity.

The course had a strong focus on explaining the role played by the Directors General in ECAC. Information on ECAC's budget and finances, communication activities, external relations, including cooperation with regional organisations (ACAO, AFCAC, LACAC, WAEMU) and key international partners, European organisations and industry stakeholders, and on topics which are of particular relevance ahead of the upcoming ICAO Assembly, was also shared. Experts from the ECAC Secretariat joined the meeting to present an overview of the main ECAC activities: security, facilitation (including health matters), environment, safety and accident investigations, economic and legal matters, and unmanned aircraft systems (UAS). ■

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ECAC Coordinating Committee discusses ICAO Assembly preparations and other strategic ECAC issues

Sorrento, 25 August — The ECAC Coordinating Committee met in Sorrento to discuss ICAO Assembly preparations, future ECAC events and the future evolution of the ECAC Secretariat. It decided that the ECAC Forum in December will be on the theme of

“From COVID to crunch”, looking at the difficulties of the recovery of the sector that have become evident over the summer, and the need to work with the industry on long-term solutions. It agreed on principles for the evolution of the ECAC Secretariat to ensure that it meets

the needs of the future, noting also work going on relating to the legal status of ECAC. Finally, the committee appointed Karin Puleo-Leodolter (Austria) as the new deputy chair of the ECAC Medium-Term Objectives (EMTO) Task Force. ■

ECAC workshop on sustainable aviation fuels organised with Clean Skies for Tomorrow

Videoconference, 6 July — The ECAC and Clean Skies for Tomorrow Workshop on SAF Reporting and Claiming, organised under [ECAC's Capacity-Building Programme for Environment](#), focused on sustainable aviation fuels (SAF).

As the aviation industry pursues its goals to improve the sustainability of flying, the supply and demand of SAF are increasing. Aspirations to accelerate the transition to use of SAF are backed by various State, regional and industry policies, and by a growing number of companies which are seeking to reduce the carbon footprint associated with their own travel and logistics.

The ECAC/EU Sustainable Aviation Fuels Task Group (SAF-TG) identified that requirements for SAF reporting and claiming face several practical challenges. Harmonisation of these requirements by ECAC States and others would remove some of the obstacles. As a first step to tackle these challenges, the SAF-TG has been gathering details of the challenges and examples of solutions.

Led by the [Clean Skies for Tomorrow](#) (CST) initiative, a community of experts

are also seeking to support a harmonised approach through the development of a SAF certification framework. This accounting mechanism, due to be published ahead of the ICAO Assembly in September 2022, provides a first-of-its-kind demand signal mechanism to encourage and account for use of SAF by aviation's passenger and freight customers, and was advanced to the participants.

The workshop aimed at expanding this information exchange to a broader community and hence invited all ECAC Member States, industry, and other stakeholders to join and collect further views to inform the SAF guidance material under development by the SAF-TG. Sixty-eight experts from States, the aviation and energy sectors, NGOs and sustainability certification entities joined the event.

ECAC task group works on SAF guidance document

Videoconference, 7 July — The seventh meeting of the ECAC/EU Sustainable Aviation Fuels Task Group (SAF-TG) focused on revising the structure of the future SAF guidance document in order to accommodate the incorporation of policy recommendations arising from the *SAF Policy Toolkit* document developed in 2021 by Clean Skies for Tomorrow, an initiative led by the World Economic Forum.

The ECAC Secretariat will continue drafting the guidance to make further progress at the next SAFTG/8 meeting scheduled on 7 September 2022.



European Aviation and Environment Working Group prepares for ICAO conferences

Brussels, 12 July — The European Aviation and Environment Group (Expanded) met to coordinate ahead of the ICAO High-level Meeting on the Feasibility of a Long-Term Aspirational Goal for International Aviation CO₂ Emissions Reductions (HLM LTAG), and to prepare for the 41st ICAO Assembly.

The first part of the meeting was dedicated to HLM preparations, with the planning

of the development of briefing material to support European participants in the HLM, as well as establishing practical arrangements for European coordination in Montreal.

The second part of the meeting focused on coordination for the ICAO Assembly, including updates to working papers and developing plans for drafting the briefing material.

Europe at the ICAO high-level meeting on environment

Montreal/hybrid, 20-22 July — A High-level Meeting on the Feasibility of a Long-Term Aspirational Goal for International Aviation CO₂ Emissions Reductions (HLM-LTAG) brought together all ICAO States in July. ECAC/EU States presented two European papers to the meeting, and the European participation was supported by ECAC, the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Commission.

This event allowed for clear progress towards the 41st ICAO Assembly. Notably, there was an agreement to encourage States to work together to strive to achieve a collective long-term global aspirational goal for international aviation of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, in support of the Paris Agreement's temperature goal, recognising that each State's special circumstances and respective capabilities will inform the ability of each State to contribute to the LTAG within its own national timeframe.

The meeting outcomes were considered by the ICAO Council on 26 August, and then will be discussed and acted on by all 193 Contracting States to the Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation at the 41st Session of the ICAO Assembly. ■

SECURITY



National auditors at the covert testing training course in Sofia, 5-7 July 2022

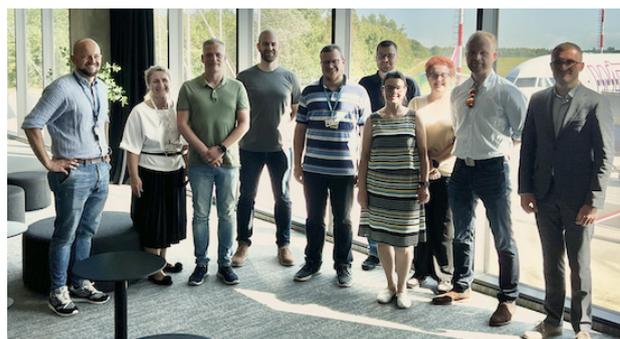
ECAC organises second and third training courses in 2022 on covert testing

Sofia, 5-7 July and Vilnius, 17-19 August — A training course on best practices on covert testing was organised by ECAC in Sofia for national auditors from Albania, Bulgaria and the Republic of Moldova, and in Vilnius for national auditors from Austria, Estonia, Lithuania and the Netherlands, with a contribution from an instructor from the United Kingdom at the Sofia event.

Through theoretical presentations and classroom activities, the participants improved their knowledge of covert testing methodology and competencies in implementing covert tests in various areas of aviation security, gaining practical experience in developing test protocols and implementing covert tests in accordance with the developed protocols and using the recommended approach. Best practices for assessing and mitigating risks related to covert testing, and for selecting and using different categories of tests items, were also reviewed during this three-day activity.

At the Vilnius event, several practical activities, organised at an airport and at the premises of a regulated agent, allowed

the participants to improve their knowledge of the testing methodology and to gain practical experience in conducting covert tests to assess the effectiveness of access control to security restricted areas, screening of persons, cabin baggage, items carried as well as screening and protection of cargo and mail.



National auditors at the covert testing training course in Vilnius, 17-19 August 2022

Training of national aviation security auditors

Amsterdam, 27 June - 1 July — National auditors from Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia and the Netherlands were introduced to best practices for inspecting and auditing the implementation of various security measures described in ECAC Doc 30, Part II — *Security* at an ECAC Best Practices for National Auditors – Level 1 training course held in Amsterdam. Instructors from the ECAC Secretariat and from Ireland led the course during which particular attention was paid to sharing best practices on inspecting the screening of passengers and their cabin and hold baggage, including the use of advanced technologies for screening.

Through a combination of classroom activities and discussion, the participants had the opportunity to improve their understanding of the key principles necessary for the effective implementation of compliance monitoring activities.

Tirana, 23-25 August — A training course on best practices for national auditors – level 2 was organised by ECAC in Tirana for national auditors from Albania, Finland, Lithuania, Montenegro and North Macedonia.

The main objective of this course was to familiarise national auditors with best practices in aviation security audit and inspection techniques, and to further strengthen their competencies in the implementation of compliance monitoring activities at a national level. This training builds on the experience and knowledge the

participants have gained from attending the level 1 training.

During the course, particular attention was paid to reviewing best practices for inspecting screening of passenger and cabin baggage, the deployment and use of security equipment, and access control to security restricted areas. ■



Attendees at the best practices for national auditors training in Tirana, 23-25 August 2022

PRESS RELEASE

ECAC DIRECTORS GENERAL SUPPORT AMBITIOUS GOALS TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS OF CIVIL AVIATION

Sorrento, 27 August 2022 — Directors General of the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) Member States reaffirmed their commitment to work together to promote ambitious international targets and measures to reduce CO₂ emissions from civil aviation and assist all States in the delivery of these goals through capacity-building activities and facilitating access to climate finance. The Directors General also affirmed their support for the Declaration of the International Aviation Climate Ambition Coalition [note] as part of the pursuit of these goals.

Their commitment was formalised through a joint statement made on 26 August 2022 during the 71st Special meeting of ECAC Directors General of Civil Aviation in Sorrento, Italy.

Click [here](#) for full press release.

[note] *The Declaration of the International Aviation Climate Ambition Coalition, made at the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in Glasgow on 10 November 2021. It can be found at <https://ukcop26.org/cop-26-declaration-international-aviation-climate-ambition-coalition/>*

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What's on in September?

- 5-6/ 44th meeting of the Study Group on Cyber Security in Civil Aviation (CYBER/44), videoconference
- 7/ 8th meeting of the EAEG Sustainable Aviation Fuels Task Group (SAFTG/8), videoconference
- 7-8/ 10th meeting of the European Coordination Group on Economic matters (ECG-ECO/10), videoconference
- 8-9/ 51st meeting of the Training Task Force (TrTF/51), Paris/hybrid
- 12/ 51st meeting of the European Aviation and Environment Working Group – Expanded (EAEG/51-Expanded), videoconference
- 13/ 13th meeting of the European Coordination Group on Facilitation (ECG-FAL/13), videoconference
- 14/ 12th Familiarisation webinar on basic knowledge on aviation and the environment (ENV-FAMWEB/12)
- 14/ 3rd meeting of the Cyber Security European Coordination Group (ECG-CS/3), videoconference
- 14/ 44th meeting of the Legal Task Force (LEGTF/44), Paris/hybrid
- 14/ 52nd meeting of the European Aviation and Environment Working Group – Expanded (EAEG/52-Expanded), videoconference
- 19-20/ 56th meeting of the Guidance Material Task Force (GMTF/56), videoconference
- 21-23/ 36th meeting of the Explosive Detection Dogs Study Group (EDD/36), Copenhagen/hybrid
- 21/ 53rd meeting of the European Aviation and Environment Working Group – Expanded (EAEG/53-Expanded), videoconference