



ECAC NEWSPOINT # 01

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ECAC MEDIUM-TERM OBJECTIVES TASK FORCE

EMTO concludes preparations for 2025-2027 triennial work programme and budget

Videoconference, 16 January — The ECAC Medium-Term Objectives (EMTO) Task Force completed its preparations of the 2025-2027 ECAC work programme and budget. These will now be presented to the Coordinating Committee and Directors General for adoption in principle, based on three remaining budget options. The final adoption is scheduled to take place during the ECAC Triennial Session in Strasbourg on 9-10 July 2024.

The task force also made significant headway on proposals aimed at standardising the terms of reference and rules of procedure of all ECAC's working groups, and on devising funding models for the ECAC Common Evaluation Process for security equipment. It agreed to hold a further online meeting (EMTO/71, 13 February 2024) to finalise papers to be presented to the Coordinating Committee on these subjects. ■

FACILITATION

ECAC Member States prepare for the 13th ICAO Facilitation Panel meeting

Videoconference, 16 January — The second meeting of the European Coordination Group on Facilitation placed a focus on the upcoming ICAO Facilitation Panel scheduled in Montreal from 26 February to 1 March 2024. Throughout the online discussions, participants exchanged information on the papers submitted by members and observers of the panel.

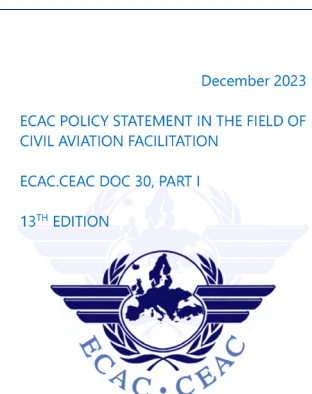
Group members considered the working and information papers that had been published under the first deadline for submissions to the Panel (29 December 2023). These papers covered a broad range of important ECAC matters in the facilitation field. Topics included crew visas, Advance Passenger Information/ Passenger Name Records (API/PNR), training and capacity building, assistance dogs, health provisions and quality assistance for PRMs.

Latest release: enhanced facilitation practices reflected in 13th edition of ECAC Doc 30 Part I (Facilitation)

9 January — Led by the Doc 30, Part I (Facilitation) review subgroup, work was completed in 2023 to update the content of this ECAC Policy Statement on Facilitation to ensure its alignment with current positions.

This review results in key changes in this 13th edition of Doc 30, Part I to reflect amendments to ICAO Annex 9 and related guidance documents, and to reflect evolving facilitation practices in Member States and the industry. Modifications encompass topics such as health measures, Advanced Passenger Information and Passenger Name Record, unruly passengers, trafficking and timely communications.

The breadth of topics covered under Doc 30, Part I underscores the extent of ECAC's programme on facilitation, driven by Member States' growing emphasis on matters of common interest relating to immigration and the needs of persons with reduced mobility. ■



Inside

- 13th edition of ECAC Doc 30, Part I (Facilitation) released
- Overview of ECAC's activities: focus on EMTO, facilitation, environment and security
- Secretariat welcomes new CEP Programme Manager
- What's on in February 2024?

Updates on CORSIA and the 2023 revised EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) for aviation



Deposit Photos/Fahroni

Videoconference, 24 January — The Directive (EU) 2023/958, dated 10 May 2023, amending the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) for aviation, published in the Official Journal of the EU on 16 May 2023, entered into force on 5 June 2023. The 22nd edition of ECAC's environmental familiarisation webinars was dedicated to understanding the main changes and implications of the changes arising from this revision and its interaction with the ICAO CORSIA scheme.

Blandine Ferrer from the ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Office and Laukia Joonas from EASA provided an update on the current process and efforts towards the ICAO CORSIA standard periodic review. They emphasised the importance of gaining insights from the implementation of the review to improve the standard and ensure its effective implementation.

Laura Lonza from the European Commission (DG CLIMA) outlined the key regulatory modifications in the implementation of the European ETS for aviation, which have been applicable since the revised directive entered into force last year. She underlined the progressive reduction of free allowances to the airlines by 25% in 2024 and 50% in 2025, ultimately eliminating them entirely after 2026. She clarified that for the time being, the EU ETS applies CORSIA in the EU, and that the next revision in 2026 may reconsider the scope of application after assessing both the EU ETS and CORSIA implementation.

Ms Lonza noted in particular that both EU and non-EU operators were subject to EU ETS for routes within its scope. In discussion, the meeting looked at whether, unless legislative adjustments

were made, duplicative market-based measures (CORSIA and EU ETS) could be applicable to non-EU registered operators in contradiction to ICAO Resolution A41-21.

María de la Rica, representing the carbon trader company Vertis Environmental Finance, offered an overview of the main implications of the 2023 revised EU ETS Directive. She shed light on how different types of aircraft operators would be impacted, showcasing the evolution of carbon markets in recent years and estimating emissions from operators that will need to be covered under the scheme. Ms de la Rica also provided insight on areas of uncertainty and major concern among operators, such as the interaction between EU ETS and CORSIA, economic impacts of both schemes, and challenges related to sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) use and reporting.

The webinar, attended by 93 participants, fostered fruitful exchanges of questions and comments between the audience and the speakers, contributing to a deeper understanding of the complex landscape of aviation emissions regulations. ■

Aviation cyber security experts convene to finalise 2024 work programme implementation plan

Videoconference, 30 January — The Study Group on Cyber Security in Civil Aviation convened to review the accomplishments of its 2023 work programme and discuss the steps

to be taken towards implementing the 2024 work programme. Priorities for the current year will include developing guidance on aviation cyber security oversight, on cyber

standards of security equipment, and on establishing a decision-making process for determining the criticality of aviation systems and data.

Guidance Material Task Force reflects on recent accomplishments and plans for 2024

Dublin/videoconference, 16-17 January

— The allocation of responsibilities in the 2024 work programme of the Guidance Material Task Force (GMTF) was the main focus of the group's first meeting of the year, conducted in a hybrid format.

More than ten new documents are scheduled for development by the task force in 2024. These include measuring vulnerabilities in aviation security, regulating the security of unmanned aircraft systems, mitigating

the risks of MANPADS, alarm resolution for chemicals in cabin baggage, and change management in aviation security. Furthermore, the task force is set to revise 18 existing Doc 30, Part II (Security) Annexes and ECAC Aviation Security Handbook documents this year.

During the meeting, the task force reviewed the implementation of its internal strategy for the period 2022-2024. This encompassed a review of the major accomplishments in the previous two years, with 21 tasks completed

in 2022 and 42 tasks in 2023. The group also reflected on the challenges encountered and future developments.

Acknowledging the pivotal role played by GMTF chair, Eleanor Travers (Ireland) in achieving these results, the task force and the ECAC Secretariat expressed their sincere gratitude to Ms Travers for her commitment, leadership and outstanding contribution over the past five years. They noted that Ms Travers had recently been appointed as the new chair of the ECAC Security Forum.



Strategy, working methods and mid-term planning at the ECAC Security Forum meeting

Paris/videoconference, 31 January-1 February

— The meeting of the Security Forum, held in a hybrid format at ECAC's offices in Paris, focused on refining strategic direction and working methods and crafting its work programme, initially for 2024.

Through engaging interactive sessions, rapid online surveys and in-depth discussions, the participants reached consensus on priorities to be addressed. Additionally, they identified numerous small, high-impact initiatives designed to promote attendance by Member States at meetings and – given that the Forum usually meets twice each year

– drive tangible improvements in the efficient use of meeting time. Eleanor Travers (Ireland) chaired the meeting for the first time assuming the role with effect 22 January 2024 after her extensive tenure leading the Guidance Material Task Force.

Cyber security proposals were considered by the participants, who agreed that extensive coordinated effort by the Study Group on Cyber Security in Civil Aviation was welcome. The Forum will now draft a policy framework that will be used to consolidate Member States' position on this cross-cutting topic. The policy may

also be used as a means of assessing readiness for the comprehensive changes to ECAC Doc 30, Part II (Security) that will be required in due course.

The work programme and priorities will also facilitate alignment between the Forum and other security groups. There are critical issues particularly in security technology that require attention in the global security context, and preparation to meet these challenges requires effectiveness at policy and technical levels. This Forum meeting was an important and significant first step to re-focus, prioritise and deliver. ■

A warm welcome to new ECAC CEP Programme Manager

Dimitris Kyprianou joined the ECAC Secretariat on 1 February as programme manager of the ECAC Common Evaluation Process of security equipment (CEP) following nine years as scientific project officer at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC).

In this role he managed projects linked to EU policy support in aviation security, threat detection and prevention. He oversaw the quality assurance activities related to the development and production of the European Commission's explosives trace detection (ETD) test kit and explosive detection dogs (EDD) training aids. He was also involved in organising training sessions for end-users of

those products. Dimitris was an observer in the ECAC EDD Study Group in 2022-2023.

Previous roles in Dimitris's professional journey include as a chemical analyst in the Cyprus National Guard and General State Laboratory and as an R&D analyst in the pharmaceutical industry.

His academic background is in chemistry with an MSc in quality control and a PhD in biotechnology.

Dimitris is looking forward to working in the Secretariat and to accomplishing the aims and objectives of the CEP. ■



What's on in February?

Calendar

- 6 ECAC webinar with DGCA Indonesia: WEF Government Policy Toolkit to Accelerate Uptake of Electric and Hydrogen Aircraft
- 6 16th meeting of the European Coordination Group on Facilitation (ECG-FAL/16), Paris
- 13 71st meeting of the ECAC Medium-Term Objectives Task Force (EMTO/71), videoconference
- 13-14 87th meeting of the Technical Task Force (TTF/87), videoconference
- 14 23rd familiarisation webinar on basic knowledge on aviation and the environment (ENV-FAMWEB/23)
- 15 14th meeting of the European Coordination Group on Aviation Security (ECG-AS/14), videoconference
- 16 49th meeting of the Legal Task Force (LEGTF/49), videoconference
- 20 12th meeting of the Facilitation Programme Management Group (FPMG/12), videoconference
- 20-21 8th Workshop on Sustainable Aviation Fuels (ENV/SAF-T Workshop/8), Skopje
- 26 18th meeting of the EAEG APER Task Group (EAEG-APER-TG/18), videoconference
- 27-28 41st meeting of the Explosive Detection Dogs Study Group (EDD/41)
- 28-29 37th meeting of the Behaviour Detection Study Group (BDSG/37), videoconference
- 28-29 4th ECAC Workshop on SAF Action Plans (SAP) including national Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF) Policy Roadmaps, Paris



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