



DIRECTORS GENERAL

ECAC Directors General meet in Chişinău to address key priorities for European aviation

Chişinău, 27-29 August 2026 — Directors General of Civil Aviation of ECAC Member States gathered in Chişinău for their 75th Special meeting, hosted by the Civil Aviation Authority of Moldova.

The meeting provided an opportunity to address a broad range of strategic and technical issues affecting European and international civil aviation, while exchanging views on current developments and priorities for the sector.

Taking place on Moldova's Independence Day, the meeting opened with welcomes from Mircea Păscăluţă, State Secretary of Transport of the Republic of Moldova, and Evgheni Kostetki, Director General of the Civil Aviation Authority of Moldova. They highlighted the importance of aviation connectivity to Moldova's economic development and European integration, as well as Moldova's commitment to aligning with European standards and contributing actively to the European aviation community.

The meeting also featured an address by

Toshiyuki Onuma, President of the ICAO Council, who underlined the importance of close cooperation between ECAC Member States and ICAO in supporting the development of aviation at both regional and global levels.

An overview of recent developments in Moldovan civil aviation was followed by an update from the State Aviation Administration of Ukraine on the civil aviation situation in the country. Directors General reiterated their support to Ukraine, noting the continued technical support provided to Ukraine by ECAC Member States, European organisations and ICAO.

On facilitation and environment issues, Directors General adopted a revised methodology for the ECAC Quality Assessment Programme for assistance to persons with reduced mobility, and agreed on the methodological approach to developing the next edition of the ECAC/EU guidance and common section of State Action Plans for the reduction of CO₂ emissions from international civil aviation expected to be published in 2027.

Safety and air traffic management matters were also addressed, with Directors General receiving updates from EUROCONTROL on recent developments and performance, including during the 2026 summer months. They also endorsed new Terms of Reference for the joint ECAC-EUROCONTROL European Delay Analysis System Advisory Group (EDAG).

Looking ahead to major international aviation milestones, Directors General considered preparations for the seventh ICAO Worldwide Air Transport Conference (ATConf/7) and the Extraordinary Session of the ICAO Assembly in November 2026. They also exchanged initial views on priorities for the ICAO High-Level Conference on Aviation Security in April 2027.

We extend our sincere thanks to the Civil Aviation Authority of the Republic of Moldova for hosting this meeting of Directors General, and the warm hospitality extended to all participants. ●



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ECAC Coordinating Committee advances priorities for the organisation's future

Chişinău, 27 August 2026 — The ECAC Coordinating Committee met for its 208th meeting on the margins of the 75th Special meeting of Directors General of Civil Aviation, to review organisational, strategic and financial matters and consider priorities for ECAC's future activities.

Discussions focused on the ECAC Secretariat's short- and long-term staffing needs, given the evolution of the civil aviation sector and Member States' needs. An initial exchange also took place on the development of a new ECAC strategy for unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), setting out the

organisation's policy priorities in this area. Discussion has also begun on the evolution of, and possible changes to, the format, frequency and timing of future meetings of Directors General, with a view to achieving greater efficiency. ●



Lithuania signs the Convention on the Bureau of ECAC

Chişinău, 27 August 2026 — We are pleased to announce that Lithuania has signed the Convention on the Bureau of the European Civil Aviation Conference during the 75th Special meeting of ECAC Directors General, in Chişinău on 27 August 2026.

Lithuania's signature marks an important step forward for the organisation and brings the total number of signatory States to the Convention to 24.

The continued growth in participation demonstrates the shared recognition among Member States of the value of working together to address common challenges and opportunities within the aviation sector. By joining the Convention, Lithuania further reinforces the organisation's collaborative framework and contributes to its long-term objectives. ●



Preparations underway for entry into force of the Convention

Videoconference, 2 July 2026 — The first meeting of the Working Group on Preparations for the Entry into Force of the Convention on the Bureau of ECAC marked the start of work to support the future implementation of the various provisions of the Convention.

As the group's inaugural meeting, discussions focused on building a shared understanding of its scope and identifying the practical and institutional preparations needed ahead of the Convention's entry into force.

Members considered the group's draft Terms of Reference and began identifying the main tasks and deliverables (such as amendments to the ECAC Constitution for consistency with the Convention) that will guide its work. The meeting also looked at the sequencing and timeline of activities, providing a clear framework for moving preparations forward in a structured manner. This will form part of a transition plan, which will be presented to Directors General at a later stage.

In the coming months, the working group will continue developing the necessary arrangements and coordinating the steps required to ensure readiness for the Convention's entry into force. ●



ECAC quality assessment supports accessible air travel at Nuremberg Airport

Nuremberg, 30 June-2 July 2026 — ECAC carried out its second quality assessment of 2026 at Nuremberg Airport, Germany, focusing on key aspects of passenger facilitation for persons with disabilities and reduced mobility (PRM). The assessment forms part of the ECAC Quality Assessment Programme (QAP) on the assistance for persons with disabilities and reduced mobility.

The assessment examined several key aspects of the PRM journey, including airport design and assistance call points, the right to assistance, service delivery, and the accessibility of information provided through the website, in line with the provisions of ECAC Doc 30, Part I (Facilitation).

Throughout the assessment, all airport staff members met by the assessment team demonstrated a strong commitment to delivering quality assistance and continuously enhancing services for PRM passengers.

The QAP reaffirms ECAC's commitment to supporting the consistent implementation of facilitation measures across its Member States. By identifying good



practices and opportunities for further improvement, quality assessments help strengthen accessibility throughout the passenger journey, ensuring that passengers with specific needs can fly with dignity, independence and confidence.

ECAC extends its appreciation to the Irish Aviation Authority for providing an expert

to the assessment team, to Nuremberg Airport and its PRM service provider for their engaged participation, and to the German Luftfahrt Bundesamt for its coordination and support throughout the assessment. ●

Regional cooperation in focus: ACAO Interregional Workshop on Aviation Security and Facilitation

الجلسة الرابعة : الدور التنظيمي لمنظمة الطيران المدني الدولي (الإيكاو) في مجال التسهيلات

محدث: السيد/ ويلكوم مكامو، خبير الأمن والتسهيلات، اللجنة الإفريقية للطيران المدني	محدث: السيدة/حنان أchaaboun، مدير التسهيلات، المؤتمر الأوروبي للطيران المدني.	محدث: السيدة/ سميحة البوسعيد، الضابط الإقليمي لأمن الطيران والتسهيلات، المكتب الإقليمي للإيكاو بالشرق الأوسط.	مدير الجلسة: السيد/ فهد الغزالي، مدير الأمن والتسهيلات، الطيران المدني- دولة الكويت
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Videoconference, 20-22 July 2026 — More than 80 aviation professionals from across several regions came together online from 20 to 22 July 2026 for the Arab Civil Aviation Organization (ACAO) Interregional Workshop on

Aviation Security and Facilitation, organised in cooperation with the ICAO Middle East Regional Office and the Cooperative Aviation Security Programme - Middle East (CASP-MID).

The workshop provided a valuable platform for sharing experiences and strengthening cooperation on aviation security and facilitation. ECAC Facilitation Manager, Hanan Achahboun, contributed to discussions, presenting ECAC's role and activities in the field of facilitation, alongside representatives from the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) and ICAO.

While participants represented different regional contexts, discussions highlighted a number of common priorities. These included the effective implementation of ICAO standards and regional requirements, the support provided to States, and the importance of keeping passengers at the centre of these activities. The workshop also reinforced the value of interregional cooperation in addressing shared challenges.

ECAC warmly thanks ACAO for its invitation and for facilitating this valuable opportunity for dialogue and cooperation. ●



ICAO European and North Atlantic Regional Workshop on Counter-UAS measures



Krakow, 7-8 July 2026 — The ICAO European and North Atlantic (EUR/NAT) Regional Office's Workshop on Counter Unmanned Aircraft Systems (C-UAS) measures explored the UAS threat landscape, regional and national strategies, legal/regulatory/operational frameworks and detection/identification/mitigation strategies against a fast-moving background of

UAS developments. The event was hosted by the Civil Aviation Authority of Poland.

Mark Rodmell, ECAC Deputy Executive Secretary, moderated the session relating to legal, regulatory and operational frameworks to counter UAS, where the importance of cooperation among agencies and allocation of the

right tasks to the right actors were emphasised. The event noted some convergence in national approaches, while also exposing the different development of counter-UAS strategies based on national threat perceptions and history. ●

NEWS FROM THE ECAC SECRETARIAT

A warm welcome to two new staff members!



Lorenzo Mantegazza joined the ECAC Secretariat in August 2026 as Aviation Security Capacity-Building Manager, implementing ECAC's aviation security capacity-building programmes and supporting Member States through tailored activities, specialised training, expert group coordination, and guidance materials. He brings over a decade of experience in aviation security at national and European levels. Before joining ECAC, he served as the head of security at

Milan Bergamo Airport, responsible for security management and emergency preparedness, including assistance to aircraft accident victims and their families. He also coordinated the Aviation Security Working Group of ASSAEROPORTI (Italian airport operators' association) and contributed to European cooperation through the ACI EUROPE Aviation Security Committee. He further developed expertise in family assistance through his engagement with the Family Victims Association established after the 2001 Linate accident and collaboration with other national and international stakeholders. An aviation enthusiast, he holds a private pilot licence and a master's degree in law. ●

On 1 September, **Alan Huet** joined the ECAC Secretariat as Strategic Coordinator to the Executive Secretary. He previously served as a diplomat and counsellor for air, maritime and inland waterway transport at the Permanent Representation of France to the European Union in Brussels, where he represented France in the Council of the European Union on files including the Single European Sky, air passenger rights, aviation agreements, decarbonisation,

sustainable fuels and drones. A civil servant of the French Directorate General for Civil Aviation (DGAC), Alan previously held a management position at the Paris-Charles de Gaulle Airport control tower and headed the air navigation charges department. He is a graduate of the École des Ponts ParisTech and AgroParisTech. Alan's career spans European policy-making, multilateral negotiation, regulatory affairs and stakeholder engagement. He holds a private pilot licence and is passionate about aviation. ●



What's on in September?

calendar

1	I	25 th meeting of the European Coordination Group on Economic matters (ECG-ECO/25), videoconference
1-2	I	45 th meeting of the Behaviour Detection Study Group (BDSG/45), videoconference
1-4	I	5 th ECAC Quality Assessment Programme training and certification session (QAP-TRAIN/5), Paris
3	I	94 th meeting of the European Aviation and Environment Working Group (EAEG/94-CAEP), videoconference
9	I	56 th meeting of the Study Group on Cyber Security in Civil Aviation (CYBER/56), videoconference
9	I	22 nd meeting of the Economic Working Group (ECO/22), videoconference
15-16	I	9 th ECAC Environmental Forum (ENVFORUM/9), Paris
16	I	95 th meeting of the European Aviation and Environment Working Group, with stakeholders (EAEG-STK/95), Paris
16	I	80 th meeting of the ECAC Medium-Term Objectives Task Force (EMTO/80), videoconference
17	I	95 th meeting of the European Aviation and Environment Working Group (EAEG/95), Paris
17-18	I	64 th meeting of the Training Task Force (TrTF/64), videoconference
17-18	I	49 th meeting of the Explosive Detection Dogs Study Group (EDD/49), Bonneuil-sur-Marne
21-22	I	68 th meeting of the Guidance Material Task Force (GMTF/68), videoconference
25	I	2 nd meeting of the Working Group on Preparations for the Entry into Force of the Convention on the Bureau of ECAC, videoconference
28	I	48 th meeting of the Security Programme Management Group (SPMG/48), videoconference
29-30	I	5 th meeting of the Group on Security Testing (STG/5), Dubrovnik



Upcoming events



Don't miss out on the discussion!

Join us in Paris on 13-14 October 2026.

Discover the programme, speakers and practical information on the event website: <https://ecac-ceac.org/events-and-meetings/upcoming-events/2026-ecac-eu-dialogue>