



**AFI COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR AVIATION
SECURITY AND FACILITATION IN AFRICA
(AFI SECFAL PLAN)**

7TH TH STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
Niamey, NIGER (19th July 2018)

**UPDATE ON AIRPORTS COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL (ACI) AIRPORT EXCELLENCE
(APEX) IN SECURITY PROGRAMME**

(Presented by Airports Council International)

SUMMARY

This paper presents an update from Airports Council International regarding its Airport Excellence (APEX) in Security programme and its contribution towards the aims of the GASeP.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The mission of Airports Council International (ACI) is to promote the collective interest of the world's airports and the communities they serve and to promote professional excellence in airport operations and management. Security is a top priority.

1.2 ACI and its members recognize the important role that industry plays in implementation of the GASeP. ACI has implemented a number of programmes and services to contribute to the objectives of the GASeP in the areas of best practice, training, capacity building and innovation. This paper highlights some of the key activities undertaken, in particular within the APEX programme to contribute to the ongoing implementation of the GASeP.

1.3 Activities include the launch of the first edition of ACI's Landside Security Handbook in April 2018, to provide guidance to all airports on every aspects of landside security including defining responsibilities, risk and vulnerability assessment, implementing a security culture as well as best practice for building design and reduction of queues and crowds.

1.4 A new training course for Airport Security Managers has been developed jointly with ICAO, alongside other new courses on security quality management and airport security operations. An e-learning course has also been developed with the aim of reaching a broader audience more easily.

1.5 In the area of innovation, the joint IATA/ACI Smart Security Programme continues to encourage the exchange of information between airports and between States and airports to promote innovative technology, processes and techniques. Materials have been included on the AVSECPaedia.

2. APEX PROGRAMMES

2.1 ACI in collaboration with aviation stakeholders and airports worldwide, has developed the Airport Excellence (APEX) in Security initiative, based on the highly successful APEX in Safety Programme.

2.2 APEX Programmes provide a peer review tailored to the individual needs of airports and proposes effective solutions which will lead to improving the operational management standing of the airports who participate in the Programme.

2.3 The framework for the review is based on ICAO Annexes Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPS), guidance material from ICAO and ACI best practices and is used alongside national regulation. It combines the mandate for regulatory compliance with the actual day to day operational needs of airports to maximize operational efficiency while enhancing the standard of safety and security.

2.4 The APEX in Security programme supports ACI's mission to promote more secure airport operations through international cooperation with aviation stakeholders and airports worldwide, ICAO policies related to aviation security, the aims of the GASeP and the UN Security Council Resolution 2309.

3. THE APEX IN SECURITY PROGRAMME

3.1 An APEX security review is carried out by a team of experts, ensuring the confidentiality of data at all stages. The Security Review is built upon results of a self-assessment questionnaire, aiming to understand the airport's legal, managerial and operational environment, in order to prepare the on-site assessment.

3.2 A review includes an assessment of current practices, a gap analysis against internationally recognized best practices, identification of recommended solutions and the design of an action plan to help the airport optimize its security performance.

3.3 The Security Review is performed on a non-remunerative basis; the host airport covers the cost of direct expenses, unless funded by through one of the funding mechanisms available. The host airport also receives ACI support to achieve the goals set in the resulting action plan. Various means of assistance are available, such as access to pools of experts, training, workshops, and seminars, working groups, at local, regional and international level.

3.4 Although the most obvious benefit is for the airport hosting the review, States also benefit from an increased level of compliance with national regulation and applicable SARPS.

3.5 The Programme also provides a valuable insight into trends in the security standing of airports to help identify global training and assistance needs, with goal of improving aviation security worldwide. In addition, feedback from review teams indicates that taking part in an APEX as a reviewer is an incredibly good learning experience for all participants, and all find something valuable to take away from the process.

4. SUCCESS OF THE SAFETY PROGRAMME AND STATUS OF THE APEX IN SECURITY PROGRAMME

4.1 Since the launch of the original APEX in Safety Programme, ACI has performed close to 100 safety reviews and a dozen security reviews. Partnerships include funding from the World Bank, and the European Aviation Safety Agency partnered with APEX in order to fund 10 safety reviews over a 2-year span in the ECCAS Region.

4.2 Since the inception of APEX in Safety, at least 10 African airports have achieved certification by using the recommendations provided by the programme. Both ICAO's certification project and the Abuja Accord turn to APEX as the main solution to be used as the road map to achieve certification.

4.3 The first pilot Security review was completed from 28 March to 1 April 2016 at Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport in Mauritius. Participants providing the review included Airports Company of South Africa, Aeroports de Paris, Aeroports de Montreal, ICAO and the Greater Toronto Airports Authority.

4.4 Further pilot reviews were conducted at Ngurah Rai International Airport in Denpasar, Indonesia and Sultan Aji Muhammad Sulaiman Airport in Balikpapan, Indonesia. The Denpasar review was observed by the Office of Transport Security (OTS) of Australia.

4.5 The pilot reviews were extremely successful in not only identifying vulnerabilities for the airport and State to address but to highlight the collaborative effort between ACI and other states in conducting such peer reviews. ACI officially launched the programme in October 2017 in conjunction with the Airports Council International World Annual General Assembly in Mauritius. ACI has delivered a total of 10 security reviews so far, with 4 more already scheduled for 2018.

4.6 The European Union has partnered with ACI to fund at least 10 reviews in Africa and Asia Pacific over the next 2 years, as the initiative is seen as a tool to help airports and CAAs catch up on their vulnerabilities and improve their security management systems,

5. ACTION BY THE AFI-SECFAL STEERING COMMITTEE

5.1 The AFI-SECFAL Steering Committee is invited to:

- a) note that the APEX in Security programme can help airports to improve the implementation of security measures;
- b) support the APEX programme by encouraging participation by airports in the region; and,
- c) promote and encourage States to facilitate the conduct of APEX reviews by involving relevant stakeholders in order to cover all key AVSEC operational areas
- d) encourage States and airports to provide expertise to support the APEX in Security programme.

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