

**61ST CONFERENCE OF
DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
ASIA AND PACIFIC REGION**

*Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
7 – 11 September 2026*

**AGENDA ITEM 5: AVIATION SECURITY AND
FACILITATION**

**AVIATION SECURITY CHALLENGES AIMED EMERGING
THREAT**

(Presented by Thailand)

INFORMATION PAPER

SUMMARY

The aviation security environment continues to evolve in response to emerging threats including cyber attacks, insider threats, unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), and vulnerabilities within the aviation supply chain. This paper highlights Thailand's efforts to strengthen aviation security through risk-based oversight, quality control activities, security culture promotion, and stakeholder cooperation. Thailand remains committed to ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and supports regional cooperation to address evolving aviation security challenges.

AVIATION SECURITY CHALLENGES AIMED EMERGING THREAT

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Aviation security remains a key element in maintaining public confidence in international civil aviation and ensuring the safe and secure movement of passengers, airport operations, air cargo, mail.

1.2 In recent years, States have faced an increasingly complex security environment. In addition to aviation security threats with acts of unlawful interference, new challenges have increased, including cybersecurity threats, insider threats, unauthorized UAS operations, and vulnerabilities within aviation supply chains.

1.3 The increasing use of digital technologies and aviation information systems has improved operational efficiency across the aviation sector. However, these developments have also introduced new areas of vulnerability that require appropriate security quality controls and oversight mechanisms.

1.4 ICAO Annex 17 and the Global Aviation Security Plan (GASeP) encourage States to adopt a risk-based and sustainable approach to aviation security while maintaining the ability to identify and respond to evolving threats.

1.5 Thailand recognizes the importance of continuously strengthening its aviation security framework to address current and future challenges while supporting the safe growth of civil aviation.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Thailand continues to implement aviation security measures through its National Civil Aviation Security Programme (NCASP) and related to regulatory framework in accordance with ICAO Annex 17 Standards and Recommended Practices.

2.2 The Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT) conducts aviation security oversight through the implementation of the National Civil Aviation Security Quality Control Programme (NCASQCP). Quality Control (QC) activities, including inspections, audits, tests and investigations are carried out to assess compliance and identify potential security vulnerabilities among regulated entities.

2.3 Thailand recognizes the importance of protecting the aviation supply chain from Act of Unlawful Interference (AUI). In this regard, CAAT continues to strengthen oversight activities relating to regulated agents while promoting secure supply chain practices for air cargo and mail operations. These efforts help strengthen the security of cargo and mail throughout the supply chain prior to air transportation.

2.4 Thailand has also strengthened aviation security measures applicable to catering providers operating within airport security controlled areas. Security controls and oversight activities are implemented to help prevent unauthorized interference, the introduction of prohibited items, and unauthorized access that could compromise aircraft security.

2.5 Cybersecurity has become an increasingly important consideration for the aviation sector. While technology developments provide operational benefits, they may also create opportunities for malware to target information systems and critical aviation infrastructure. Thailand continues to monitor developments in aviation cybersecurity and supports efforts to strengthen cyber resilience within the aviation sector.

2.6 Unauthorized UAS operations near airport zone continue to present challenges for aviation authorities worldwide. Thailand has taken steps to strengthen regulatory controls and cooperation among relevant agencies or authorities to mitigate risks associated with drone operations in the area of airports and other sensitive facilities.

2.7 Moreover, Thailand recognize that the management of aviation security has become increasingly complex due to the potential malicious use of dangerous goods in civil aviation. Unlike traditional threats, dangerous goods are often legally transported materials, making it difficult to distinguish between legitimate and harmful intent. This dual-use nature creates significant challenges for security screening systems, which are typically designed to detect prohibited items rather than risky intentions. Furthermore, the global air cargo supply chain involves multiple stakeholders, increasing the risk of undeclared or manipulated shipments. Technological limitations in detection systems also reduce the ability to identify concealed threats effectively. In addition, insider threats and inadequate information sharing among agencies further complicate risk mitigation efforts. The rapid growth of e-commerce has led to a surge in small parcels, increasing the likelihood of dangerous goods being misused or improperly declared. Regulatory gaps between safety and security frameworks also contribute to inefficiencies in oversight. To address these challenges, a more integrated and intelligence driven approach, both within regions and international, is needed. Moreover, the conduct of quality control activities by means of risk-based approach is deemed necessary. Strengthening cooperation, enhancing technology, and improving regulatory alignment are essential to mitigating this emerging threat.

2.8 Thailand also recognizes the potential risks related to insider threats. Authorized person with access security restricted areas (SRA), aircraft, cargo, or security sensitive information (SSI) may intentionally or unintentionally compromise aviation security measures. To mitigate these risks, Thailand continues to promote security awareness, recurrent training, access control measures, and effective oversight of entities with aviation security responsibilities.

2.9 In response to the evolving nature of aviation security threats, cooperation among Regions and States remains important. Timely information sharing, capacity-building initiatives, and the exchange of best practices, particularly the deployment of advanced technologies capable of accurately responding to emerging threats can help States address common security challenges and enhance aviation security across the APAC region.

2.10 Thailand remains committed to supporting ICAO initiatives and working closely with Member States and industry stakeholders to enhance aviation security throughout the APAC region.

3. ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE

3.1 The Conference is invited to note the information contained in this Paper.

— END —