MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON AVIATION SECURITY AND FACILITATION IN AFRICA

WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA, 4-8 April 2016

EUROPEAN PROJECT FOR CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY IN AFRICA AND THE ARABIAN PENINSULA - CASE PROJECT

(Presented by the European Commission on behalf of the European Union (as an Observer) supported by the Members and Observers of the Aviation Security Panel from the European Union and by the European Civil Aviation Conference)

SUMMARY
This Information Paper provides a description of the CASE Project, which was officially launched on 1 November 2015. This four year Project (2015-2019) consists of capacity building activities to be organised for the benefit of partner countries in Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. The Project is funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC).
ACTION REQUIRED: The meeting is invited to note the launch of the CASE Project and to encourage all ICAO Member States which are potentially involved, either as partner States or contributing States, to actively participate in the Project.
REFERENCE(S): Session Topic 2.1 Addressing Aviation Security and Facilitation challenges in Africa: European Commission/European Civil Aviation Conference's perspective

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Europe is committed to supporting the global implementation of Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) laid down in ICAO Annex 17 on security to protect civil aviation against acts of unlawful interference.

1.2 By their past and present capacity building activities, the European Union (EU) and the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) have demonstrated their willingness to engage with States in various regions where working in partnership can support reaching compliance with international aviation security standards and therefore can deliver a secure global air transport system

for the industry and the travelling public. This approach is consistent with ICAO's 'No Country Left Behind' campaign, which was initiated by Dr Aliu, President of ICAO Council *("The main goal of this work is to help ensure that SARP implementation is better harmonized globally so that all States have access to the significant socio-economic benefits of safe and reliable air transport."*).

1.3 This paper describes the most recent capacity building initiative, the *Civil Aviation Security in Africa and the Arabian Peninsula (CASE)* Project, which sees the EU and ECAC working together: the four year Project (2015-2019) is financed by the EU and is implemented by ECAC.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

2.1 The overall purpose of the CASE Project is to counter the threat of terrorism against civil aviation by improving the level of aviation security in partner States through capacity building activities. Its specific objectives are:

- To promote a security culture in partner States;
- To work together with partner States to review and adjust their national aviation security legislation and regulations, in particular in the field of cargo security;
- To foster aviation security quality control in those States; and
- To enhance the capacity of the partner States to meet ICAO Annex 17 Standards and Recommended Practices.

3. ACTIVITIES UNDER THE PROJECT

3.1 Partner States, in the African continent and the Arabian Peninsula, will be selected on the basis of: their political and operational commitment to the field of aviation security, their past records as partner States of previous capacity building activities, current or upcoming capacity building activities provided by other entities, such as ICAO and individual States (to avoid duplication), the volume of international air transport and the level of threat against civil aviation faced by those States. Political stability in the partner States and health and safety requirements for experts delivering the capacity building activities will also be taken into account.

3.2 A wide range of capacity building actions will be delivered in the framework of the Project, based both on ECAC's own expertise (e.g. vulnerability assessments or workshops) and on the expertise of States in specific fields (e.g. MANPADS). Some activities will benefit several countries at the same time, such as regional workshops or sub-regional training sessions open to participants from different countries. Other actions will be targeted to answer the specific needs of a given country.

Regional or sub-regional workshops

With the objective of enhancing knowledge and expertise as well as sharing and exchanging experience, workshops will be organised. Five topics have already been identified:

- Cargo and mail security;
- Security equipment and technology;
- Security culture;
- Screener certification (passengers, baggage and cargo); and
- Threats to civil aviation, including MANPADS and non-metallic threats.

With an average attendance of 30 participants, each of those workshops will be organised at least once a year in the regions.

Mentoring activities. Three priorities have already been identified for mentoring activities, which shall consist in sharing, on-site, best practices and existing tools at the level of one specific partner State:

- MANPADS threat assessment and mitigation measures;
- Establishing and measuring security culture; and
- Improving the use of available technology.

Each of those mentoring activities will be offered each year to two partner States. The MANPADS assessment and mitigation activities consist of several phases and may therefore be implemented on a multi-year basis.

Review and adjustment of specific national legislation and regulations. This activity aims at ensuring that existing legislation, regulations and programmes (National Aviation Security Programmes) are compliant with international and regional standards and best practices, especially in the fields of:

- Cargo security regulations and implementing procedures; and
- Screener certification (mainly cargo but passengers and baggage as well).

These activities will be organised to several partner States after attending the workshop on cargo and mail security.

Training aimed at the development of aviation security quality control. This activity focuses on the human factor and aims at successfully tackling all the relevant challenges faced by States in order to build, implement and maintain robust compliance monitoring systems, i.e. successively:

- Development of national auditing capacities, through training (including practical activities) and certification of national auditors;
- Development of national quality control activities, through on-site coaching; and
- Development of covert tests.

Risk assessment and management. Beyond the adjustment of national regulations and the development of compliance monitoring systems aimed at ensuring the proper implementation of those regulations, this activity aims at enhancing the national capacities of partner States to assess and manage risks, both through the organisation of workshops and on-the-field activities, i.e.:

- Workshops on risk management;
- Workshops on vulnerability assessments;
- Landside security, through the conduct of joint vulnerability assessments; and
- Cargo security, through the conduct of joint cargo security audits.

It is planned that each of the two workshops will be offered at least once a year, and that two countries per year shall benefit from assessments and audits.

3.3. As a result of the selection process, and in order to deliver capacity building activities to meet the specific needs of partner States, it has to be noted that not all of the aforementioned actions will be actually implemented in every eligible State or even every selected State.

4. MANAGEMENT OF THE PROJECT

4.1 The Project is managed, within the ECAC Secretariat, by a dedicated Project Team, that has been established to organise and deliver all the activities foreseen under the Project. Capacity building activities will be delivered on-site by a pool of experts appointed by ECAC Member States (plus the Airports Council International (ACI) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA)). During the implementation of the Project, it is expected that regional experts will be identified and invited to join the pool of experts.

4.2 A Steering Group (SG) acts as the 'Advisory Board' for the Project. It is made up of representatives of EU Member States, representatives of international organisations (ICAO, African Civil Aviation Commission, Arab Civil Aviation Commission, other regional organisations), representatives of partner States and representatives of IATA and ACI. The Steering Group also ensures coordination with other entities delivering capacity building activities in the regions and other initiatives, in particular the AFI SECFAL Initiative from ICAO.

5. ACTION REQUIRED BY THE MEETING

5.1. The meeting is invited to note the launch of the CASE Project and to encourage all ICAO Member States which are potentially involved, either as partner States or contributing States, to actively participate in the Project.

— END —