

## State Visits and interventions by the Regional Director

### 10th edition of the AFI Aviation Week 2025

The EUR/NAT Regional Director participated in the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the AFI Aviation Week 2025 held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe from 26 to 30 May 2025. This week long edition included the AFCAC Coordinated Meeting of the Directors General of Civil Aviation of the African-Indian Ocean Region (AFI-DGCA), AFI Aviation Symposium and Meeting of the AFI Plans SC (AFI Plan, SECFAL and HRDF).

Upon request from the meeting, the EUR/NAT Regional Director presented the Country Strategic Plan of Action (COSPA) pilot programme, which the EUR/NAT RO, with support from ANB and CDI, developed for Uzbekistan. The COSPA Programme—the first of its kind developed by ICAO—aims to significantly strengthen a State's aviation safety capabilities through a strategic, collaborative, time-bound, and results driven approach aligned with the State's national development plan. It focuses on enhancing strategic planning, safety oversight, accident and incident investigation, safety management, and operational safety (i.e. the five “focus areas”), in support of the State's sustainable socio-economic development. Within the COSPA framework, aviation safety capacity development needs are prioritized through a three-year plan, supported by a targeted set of implementation activities. The implementation of the COSPA Programme in Uzbekistan—ICAO's only doubly landlocked State—will not only benefit the recipient State but also serve as a valuable testbed for the potential development of similar programmes to support other States, both within the EUR/NAT area and across other ICAO Regional Offices' accreditation areas



## Implementation Support

Advancing aviation safety in Uzbekistan through partnerships, commitment and prioritization



Uzbekistan's aviation sector took a significant step forward as the second meeting of the COSPA Strategic Review Board (SRB) convened in Tashkent on 22 May 2025. Co-chaired by the Director General of the Uzbekistan Civil Aviation Authority (UZCAA) and the EUR/NAT Regional Director, the meeting brought together national and international aviation leaders, including from France, Airbus, Boeing, IATA, ACI-Europe, and the World Bank, to assess progress and set priorities for Year 2 of the COSPA Programme. Under the COSPA framework, capacity development needs related to aviation safety are prioritized through a three-year plan, supported by a targeted list of implementation activities (conducted by ICAO or COSPA Partners).



Key outcomes of the SRB02 meeting included:

- A renewed commitment to strengthening aviation safety oversight through expanded inspectorate staffing and training.
- An agreement to enhance collaboration between regulators and industry on safety intelligence and risk mitigation.
- Plans for Uzbekistan airports to undergo ACI World's Airport Excellence (APEX) peer reviews and for air operators to consider IATA Operational Safety Audits (IOSA).
- Launch of a COSPA internet based toolbox to track progress and promote transparency.

In concluding, the EUR/NAT Regional Director emphasized the urgency of securing additional resources and institutional autonomy for the UZCAA to meet the demands of a rapidly growing aviation sector.



## Safety and Air Navigation

The EUR/NAT Deputy Regional Director (DRD) participated in the CANSO Leadership Summit on 12 May 2025 followed by the CANSO ATM Conference and Exhibition on 13-15 May 2025, both held in Lisbon, Portugal.



## Unmanned Aviation Fundamentals (UAF) course

As part of the 2025 plan for the ICAO Global Aviation Training (GAT) courses to be organized at the EUR/NAT Regional Office (EUR/NAT RO), the Unmanned Aviation Fundamentals (UAF) training course was held in Paris from 12 to 16 May 2025 with 16 participants and 12 States.



The DRD's contribution included participation as a panelist in the CANSO Leadership Summit under the agenda item on higher airspace operations (HAO). HAO is a fast growing new entrant that was listed as no.4 on the list of the top 10 emerging technologies of the World Economic Forum in 2024. Discussions at the Summit focused on the critical aspects of seamless integration of HAO with the current and future global ATM system. Key topics of the Conference also included integration of new entrants, enhancing civil/military cooperation and use of innovations, such as artificial intelligence, in aviation.







## ICAO EUR AST TF/6 Meeting



AST TF/6, Paris, 5-7 May 2025

The Sixth Meeting of the Aeronautical Fixed Surfaces (AFS) to SWIM Transition Task Force (AST TF/06) was held in the ICAO EUR/NAT Office in Paris, France, from 5 to 7 May 2025. The meeting was attended by 24 States and 5 industry organizations.

The Meeting reviewed latest updates on the EUR Regional Aeronautical Fixed Services developments, including the EUR ATS Message Management Centre (AMC) and the progress in the Aeronautical Message Handling System (AMHS) implementation and connections with other Regions. The Meeting further reviewed States developments in transition to SWIM and the implementation of AMHS-SWIM Gateways.

In terms of the network cybersecurity measures, the meeting discussed in detail procedures and practices required to ensure compliance with the ICAO AMHS security provisions. In addition, the Meeting endorsed several change proposals to the ICAO EUR Documents, including the EUR AMHS Manual (EUR Doc 020), EUR ATS

Message Management Manual (EUR Doc 021), *EUR ATN NSAP Address Registry* (EUR Doc 028), EUR IPv6 Address Space Allocation (EUR Doc 037R), AMHS/SWIM Gateway Specifications (EUR Doc 047), ATS Messaging Routing Directory - Part I, ATS Messaging Routing Directory - Part IV – COM Charts and the ICAO Doc 7754 (EUR eANP).

## ICAO EUR FMG CM 2025 and EUROCONTROL RAFT



FMG CM 2025 / RAFT 27

The 2025 Coordination Meeting of the ICAO EASPG Frequency Management Group (FMG CM 2025) combined with the Twenty Seventh meeting of the Network Manager Radio Frequency Function Team (RAFT/27) was held in EUROCONTROL Headquarters in Brussels, from 13 to 15 May 2025.

The Meeting reviewed the draft ICAO position on items of interest to aviation on the agenda of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) World Radiocommunication Conference (2027) (WRC-27). The meeting urged States to support the ICAO position, in line with the State Letter E 3/5-24/93 issued by ICAO Headquarters on E 3/5-24/93. It was agreed that a dedicated workshop for the EUR/NAT (and MID) Regions will be conducted in Paris from 6 to 7 October 2025, with the support of ICAO Headquarters.

In addition, the Meeting reviewed the latest updates and activities related to frequency spectrum management, interference issues, and frequency planning in the EUR Region.

The meeting endorsed proposals to update the ICAO EUR Doc 011 (Frequency management manual) for approval by the plenary FMG in October 2025.

## ICAO Safety workshop on use of AI for safety data processing and analysis

The ICAO Safety Workshop on use of AI for safety data processing and analysis was held in Paris, France, on 13 May 2025.

The workshop was met with significant interest, with 40 participants from 23 states, 5 international organizations and industry organizations. Discussions focused on ICAO provisions on safety intelligence and participants received information on the initial steps in using AI, including identifying necessary preparations and exploring potential applications, EUROCAE WG-114 AI Standards in Aviation, Safety Data Analytics and AI applications in ATM Safety analysis, Taxonomy of Machine Learning, and its Role in Developing AI Systems, AI and its limitations with aviation safety data and AI Assisted Safety Analysis. The workshop materials are published [here \(click on this link\)](#).



## Combined Ninth Meeting of EASPG Regional Expert Safety Group (EASPG RESG/09) and RESG Regional Aviation Safety Plan Working Group (RESG RASP WG/08)

The combined Ninth Meeting of the EASPG Regional Expert Safety Group (RESG/09) and Eighth Meeting of the RESG Regional

Aviation Safety Plan Working Group (RASP WG/08) was held in Paris, France, from 14 to 15 May 2025. The meeting brought together 50 participants from 23 states, 5 international organizations and industry.

The Meeting reviewed the outcomes of the EUR RASP 2024 survey to support development of the EUR RASP 2024 Implementation Report and to conduct preparatory work for the development of the EUR RASP 2026-2028. Key topics included the definition of regional high risk categories in the field of operational safety and identification of key regional organizational challenges. The groups also reviewed available safety intelligence and made proposals to further enhance aviation safety in the Region.

The European Annual Safety Report for 2024 was also presented to the Meeting and, once approved by the EASPG will be published on the ICAO EURNAT Webpage [EUR Annual Safety Reports Folder](#).



## Thirty-Second Meeting of the North Atlantic Safety Oversight Group (NAT SOG/32)

The Thirty-Second Meeting of the North Atlantic Safety Oversight Group (NAT SOG/32), hosted by the UK Civil Aviation Authority, was held in Gatwick, United Kingdom from 20 to 23 May 2025. The Meeting was chaired by the Vice-Chair, Mr. Paul Kennedy (Ireland), and brought together experts from across the region to review and advance safety oversight in the





## North Atlantic High-Level Airspace (NAT HLA).



The Meeting reviewed key reports on regional safety performance, including updates from the NAT Scrutiny Group (NAT SG), Central Monitoring Agency (NAT CMA), and Mathematicians' Working Group (NAT MWG). The 2024 draft edition of the NAT Annual Safety Report (ASR) was reviewed and refined, which will be presented for endorsement to the upcoming NAT SPG/61 meeting. The Meeting made several decisions aimed at improving data reporting and analysis practices, including the adoption of a combined vertical and lateral collision risk estimate, and approved the latest amendment to the NAT Oceanic Error Safety Bulletin (OESB).

The Meeting also reviewed the progress of several project teams, including those addressing the NAT safety case enhancements and fast track process, regulatory oversight of Communication Service Providers (CSPs) and Satellite Service Providers (SSPs), and the review of the MNPS/HLA authorizations in the NAT.

A total of 32 participants from NAT States and international organizations attended the meeting, including from Canada, Denmark, Iceland, Ireland, Norway, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom, the United States, IATA, IFALPA, and the ICAO EUR/NAT Office.

## MIDANPIRG/21 Meeting

The Regional Officer for MET/ANS Implementation from the ICAO EUR/NAT

Office participated in the Twenty-Second Meeting of the Middle East Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Regional Group (MIDANPIRG/22) held in Doha, Qatar.

The meeting, organized by the ICAO MID Regional Office, gathered senior officials, experts, and stakeholders from the region and beyond. Participants reviewed progress in implementing ICAO's Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP), discussed critical air navigation and safety priorities, and adopted regional strategies to enhance aviation performance.



During the meetings, RO EUR/NAT presented the outcomes and key updates from the 11th and 12th Meteorology Sub-Group (MET SG) meetings held in November 2023 and 2024, respectively. Coordinated with MID States and international partners, the updates focused on several strategic areas, including:

- Transition to Digital Aeronautical Meteorological Services
- The global transition from traditional MET products to System-Wide Information Management (SWIM)-enabled
- Digitally structured formats such as IWXXM (ICAO Meteorological Information Exchange Model) aligned with ICAO Annex 3 and GANP objectives.

It was decided that the ICAO EUR/NAT Office, in coordination with the World



Meteorological Organization (WMO), will organize a dedicated workshop on enhancing MET services in the MID region. This initiative will aim to support states in addressing identified air navigation deficiencies, implementing Quality Management Systems (QMS), and upgrading MET services in accordance with ICAO SARPs.



The meeting endorsed several related draft conclusions and decisions, including the proposal to conduct a regional MET compliance survey and to formally revise the terms of reference of the MET Sub-Group to include oversight of space weather services.

## Seventh Meeting of the EASPG Programme Coordinating Group (EASPG PCG/7)

The Seventh Meeting of the EASPG Programme Coordinating Group (EASPG PCG/7) was held at the kind invitation of Cyprus in Larnaca from 27 to 29 May 2025. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Levan Karanadze (EASPG Chairperson, Georgia), supported by Mr. Luc Lapene (EASPG Vice-Chairperson, France) and Mr. Torsten Jacob (EASPG Vice-Chairperson, Germany). The Meeting welcomed the new PCG members from Ukraine, as endorsed by the EASPG/6, and welcomed the representatives from Cyprus and Morocco that were invited to attend on an ad-hoc basis.

The outcomes of the meeting included the review and endorsement of the EUR Annual Safety Report 2024, agreements on further actions to support the implementation of PCR/ACR provisions, progress report from the EUR project team on space transport operations, development of the minimum operational network requirements, implementation of FF-ICAO and Project 30/10, and a discussion on GNSS RFI related issues.



## Aviation Security & Facilitation

The ICAO EUR/NAT Office, in collaboration with ICAO HQ (ASA Section), organized a Seminar on Aviation Security Audits (USAP-CMA), which took place in the Paris Office from 20 to 23 May 2025. A total of 44 participants registered for the Seminar, including persons nominated as the National USAP-CMA Coordinator by their State and those responsible for oversight of USAP-CMA audit preparation.

The objective of the in-person Seminar was to familiarize participants with the ICAO USAP-CMA and with the tools and methodology used for the preparation, conduct and reporting of security audits and other monitoring activities under the USAP-CMA. The Seminar also discussed the responsibilities and obligations of ICAO and the audited State, in order to assist their States throughout the various phases of the USAP-CMA process.







The EUR/NAT RO participated (virtually) in the PGS (Programme Global Shield) Global Symposium organized by the World Customs Organization (WCO), which took place from 20 to 21 May 2025 in Brussels. One of the topics was the new threat caused by Improvised Incendiary Devices (IIDs).

The EUR/NAT RO participated in the joint IATA-UPU-ICAO Webinar which focused on enhancing airmail security. It was an opportunity to explore current threats, such as IIDs, trends and future directions in the postal and aviation areas.

## Environmental Protection – LTAG

The EUR/NAT RO is actively preparing for an ACT CORSIA webinar for States in partnership with Germany. This second ACT CORSIA webinar will be held in early June with CORSIA Focal Points from EUR/NAT States.

The EUR/NAT RO continues the coordination with the European Union, EASA and ATB for the current ACT SAF Project with EU funding, under which SAF feasibility studies are implemented.

In addition, the EUR/NAT RO supported, and participated virtually in the EASA workshop held in Nigeria, from 5 to 7 May with presentations on the ICAO ACT SAF

Program and the current plan of feasibility studies to be initiated in several States.

The EUR/NAT RO trained the new Focal Point for State Action Plan and CORSIA for the State of Luxembourg.

## Transformational objective

### Renovation works

The renovation project is progressing as planned. Since October 2024, the Assistance à Maîtrise d’Ouvrage (AMO) has been providing essential support and guidance to the EUR/NAT RO, focusing on the project's administrative, management, technical, legal, and financial aspects.

The second major tender, for the “Maîtrise d’Oeuvre (MOE)” contract, resulted in the contract signature on 22 May 2025 and the subsequent start of the MOE's activities. The selected MOE is responsible for preparing the solicitation documents for the general contractor's contract and overseeing the management and execution of the construction works throughout the renovation.

Additionally, the EUR/NAT RO is making significant strides in coordinating the rental of office space at one of the UNESCO's Paris sites to accommodate staff during the renovation period.

## Office Arrangements

The Personnel Instruction 5.1.1 on Flexible Working Arrangements (FWAs) which entered into force on 1 July 2024 is duly applied in the EUR/NAT RO. All staff members are required to be physically present in the office on Mondays, unless they are on a mission, annual leave or sick leave.

