



**WORKING PAPER**

**ASSEMBLY — 41ST SESSION**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Agenda Item 14: Aviation Security — Policy**

**IMPORTANCE OF COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIP FOR ENHANCEMENT OF SECURITY CULTURE**

(Presented by the United Arab Emirates co-sponsored by the United Kingdom)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This Working Paper emphasizes the importance and benefits from collaboration and partnership in ongoing need to promote the enhancement of security awareness and a strong and effective security culture in civil aviation, by ICAO, States, relevant organizations, industry and other stakeholders. It also provides the approaches and achievements related to the objectives of the ICAO Year of Security Culture by the United Arab Emirates at national, regional and international levels.

**Action:** The Assembly is invited to:

- a) Encourage ICAO, States, relevant organisations, industry and stakeholders to continue practical actions towards the enhancement of security culture in civil aviation; and
- b) Recognize the importance and benefits from collaboration and partnership amongst ICAO, States, organizations, industry and other stakeholders in the ongoing need to further promote and support the enhancement of security awareness and a strong and effective security culture in civil aviation.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to Strategic Objective Aviation Security and Facilitation
<i>Financial implications:</i>	This working paper has no direct financial implications.
<i>References:</i>	ICAO Global Aviation Security Plan, Doc 10118 ICAO Assembly Resolution A40-11 ICAO A41 WP 23 REPORT ON THE ICAO YEAR OF SECURITY CULTURE (YOSC) 2021

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The importance of a strong security culture in aviation was emphasized in the ICAO Global Aviation Security Plan (GASeP), which goal is to enhance the effectiveness of global aviation security. One of the five priority outcomes identified by the GASeP is to develop security culture and human capability as a critical element to achieve good security outcomes as well as in raising the level of implementation of provisions of Annex 17 — Aviation Security.

1.2 The ICAO Assembly Resolution A40-11 Consolidated statement on continuing ICAO policies related to aviation security, adopted by the 40th Session of the ICAO Assembly in 2019, further highlighted the importance of a strong security culture in aviation. As recommended by Assembly, the ICAO and States have continued the work in enhancing security awareness and security culture, making it a priority and the ICAO Year of Security Culture (YOSC) was designated in 2021 (instead in 2020 due to COVID 19 impact). ...

## 2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The UAE General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) has realized the importance of the security culture in civil aviation since the GASeP was introduced in 2017 and decided to play an important role to implement YOSC programme at national, regional and international level. The objective has been to enhance security awareness and security culture and make it a priority based on the ICAO initiatives, activities and various security culture tools and resources. In order to assess the needs and priorities, elaborate brainstorming sessions were conducted with relevant stakeholders in the UAE during 2019 when security culture priorities were defined, as well as the topics and campaigns to be covered and undertaken during the UAE GCAA Year of Security Culture in 2021 and beyond.

2.2 In doing so, the UAE GCAA undertook an active role in developing the YOSC initiatives and activities on a national, regional and global levels with the objective to enhance security awareness and security culture, making it a priority. During 2021 and 2022 four widely spoken languages in the UAE (Arabic, English, Urdu/Hindi) were used to effectively deliver security culture workshops/webinars. In the coming years efforts will be made to increase the number of languages in taking security culture practical actions towards the enhancement of security culture in aviation to support the effective implementation of security measures, and promote security awareness and optimal security behaviour by all entities and individuals, in order to make it directly accessible to more linguistic groups of people in the UAE.

2.3 The GCAA undertook activities including, but not limited to:

- a) Organizing and hosting YOSC webinars and workshops for more than 1500 participants covering various topics such as:
  - (i) AVSEC awareness;
  - (ii) Passenger and document assessment;
  - (iii) How to build a positive security culture in aviation;
  - (iv) An exemplary Security Checkpoint;
  - (v) Insider Threat;
  - (vi) Cyber Security;
  - (vii) Landside security;
  - (viii) Importance of AVSEC training;
  - (ix) Piece-level cargo screening;

- (x) Current Situation in Aviation Security;
  - (xi) Data analysis and security culture;
  - (xii) Screener Accreditation Scheme, etc;
- b) developed website to educate and enhance the understanding of YOSC;
  - c) enhanced international collaboration related to YOSC with partners/entities such as the Australian Department of Home Affairs; The German Federal Police; United Kingdom Department for Transport (DfT), etc.;
  - d) organized Arab Aviation Security Week (13-17 June 2021) for 59 participants from Arab Civil Aviation Organization (ACAO) with formal declaration of YOSC, in order to promote a strong and effective security culture in aviation amongst ACAO members; emphasizing that security is everyone's responsibility and the importance of the partnership amongst the States and organizations for development of a strong and effective security culture in civil aviation in the region;
  - e) sharing the UAE GCAA security culture achievements at ACAO Security Culture Day on 3 November 2021;
  - f) sharing the UAE GCAA security culture achievements at various ICAO MID Region events related to Security Culture such as Regional Security Culture Webinar (24-25 November 2021), ICAO MID RAFIT/2, etc.
  - g) presenting the UAE security culture achievements at ICAO Security Culture Webinar on 16 February 2022 under the Agenda Item: The ICAO Year of Security Culture 2021 (YOSC) in Review – Worldwide Achievements.
  - h) sharing the UAE GCAA Approach for the YOSC at AVSEC Global Conference in October 2021 where different aspects of the ICAO YOSC were discussed, etc.

2.4 Based on outcomes from above activities, it is crucial to continue building and maintaining an effective security culture that is inclusive of all participants and stakeholders of the civil aviation. A commitment to have in place a sustainable and an effective security culture initiative nurtures a positive culture founded on principles of professionalism and trust.

2.5 As the aviation industry still continues to recover from the global pandemic, it is essential that ICAO, States, relevant organisations, industry and stakeholders continue to collaborate and promote the enhancement of security awareness and a strong and effective security culture in aviation, in order to support the integration of a robust security culture for all personnel, in both security and non-security functions, at all levels and across the entire aviation domain, as an imperative to the development and sustainability of an effective aviation security environment. Partnership amongst the ICAO, States, within the regions, amongst the regions and globally, organisations, industry and all relevant stakeholders should be further encouraged and the UAE GCAA is more than willing to share its experience, as well as to organize and participate in appropriate international and regional activities recognizing the ongoing need to promote the enhancement of security awareness and a strong and effective security culture in aviation, by States, relevant organizations, industry and other stakeholders.

2.6 The UAE GCAA is keen to continue to work together with ICAO, Member States, organisations, industry and relevant stakeholders in further practical actions and events towards the enhancement of security culture programmes and campaigns, in order to support the effective

implementation of security measures, and promote security awareness and optimal security behaviour by all entities and individuals at the national, regional and global level. The promotion of effective security culture was noted to be important in order to achieve good security outcomes. The existence of a well-trained, motivated and professional work force is a critical prerequisite for effective aviation security.

### 3. CONCLUSION

3.1 The effectiveness of aviation security relies heavily on the performance of people, therefore the permanent focus on a strong and effective security culture by all in aviation will further support human factor concept, including the motivation of people to be the best they can be. Commitment to continue to have in place sustainable and effective security culture initiatives will further nurture a positive culture founded on principles of professionalism and trust. As the aviation industry continues to recover from the global pandemic, it is essential to prioritize investing in human resources. It is a well-established fact that any entity that cares and commits to its work force is an entity whose work force will care and commit to its success and security. Collaboration and partnership - on an ongoing basis - to promote the enhancement of security awareness and a strong and effective security culture in civil aviation, by ICAO, States, relevant organizations, industry and other stakeholders are of great importance.

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