



DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION-MIDDLE EAST REGION

Sixth Meeting (DGCA-MID/6) (Abu Dhabi, UAE, 1-3 November 2022)

Agenda Item 6: Aviation Security and Facilitation

FOSTERING AVIATION SECURITY

(Presented by the United Arab Emirates)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the importance of human capital in aviation security, need for human capacity development, including strong security culture, as recognised by the ICAO GASeP and the ICAO Assembly Resolutions and Report, as well as the necessity for official professional recognition of aviation security workforce at the national, regional and global level for fostering aviation security.

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.1

REFERENCES

ICAO Global Aviation Security Plan, Doc 10118
ICAO Assembly Resolution A40-11 and A41

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The ICAO Assembly Resolution A41 Consolidated Statement on Continuing ICAO Policies related to Aviation Security, adopted by the 41st Session of the ICAO Assembly in 2022, further highlighted the importance of a strong security culture in aviation. The Assembly encouraged States, international and regional organizations, and industry to continue building on the security culture achievements attained throughout the Year of Security Culture (YOSC), including by making use of the available ICAO security culture tools and resources and requested ICAO to continue to promote the implementation and maintenance of a strong and effective security culture in aviation and to build diversity and inclusion principles into this important work.

1.2 The importance of human capacity development, as well as the development of human capital, skill and competencies in aviation security, including a strong security culture, was initially recognised and emphasized in the ICAO Global Aviation Security Plan (GASeP), with the goal 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. In view of that, the ICAO Assembly at its 40th Session adopted Resolution 40-11 and designated the ICAO YOSC. This Resolution was updated at A41.

1.3 The ICAO Aviation Security Panel, at its Thirty-third meeting held in May 2022, also recognized the importance of human factors and their impact on performance in aviation security and acknowledged the interconnected relationship with security culture and training, agreeing to include a strong focus on the matter when updating the GASeP.

1.4 Globally the aviation industry is facing difficult challenges to recruit professional aviation security staff with right competencies to support the resumption of aviation operations, and perform critical aviation security functions. With these challenges, it is clear that the additional efforts and mechanisms should be implemented to attract, manage and retain competent aviation security professionals, as well as for the motivation and performance of the aviation security workforce.

1.5 A well-functioning and secure aviation system is not possible without dedicated, skilled and motivated professional aviation security staff. That is why the aviation security roles merit recognition of the required skills and competencies, and should be further promoted as a profession given their due importance. The ICAO Assembly 41st noted that within the framework of the ICAO Next Generation of Aviation Professionals (NGAP) Programme, States and industry must work together to ensure enough qualified and competent aviation security professionals are available to operate, manage and maintain the effectiveness and efficiency of the aviation security system.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The effectiveness of aviation security relies heavily on the performance of people, therefore the permanent focus on the importance of the human capital and a strong and effective security culture by all in aviation will further support aviation security human factor concept, including the professional recognition, rewarding and promotion of aviation security workforce and motivation of people to be the best they can be.

2.2 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 importance of aviation security human factor, 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.

2.3 Partnership amongst the ICAO, States, regions, organisations, industry and all relevant stakeholders in this regard should be further encouraged and the UAE GCAA is more than willing to further enhance ways of collaboration. This includes organizing and participating in appropriate international and regional activities recognizing the ongoing need to promote the aviation security workforce, enhancement of security awareness and a strong and effective security culture in aviation, by States, relevant organizations, industry and other stakeholders.

2.4 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 recognition of aviation security professions as well as 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 human capital and effective security culture was noted to be important in order to achieve good security outcomes. The existence of professionally recognized, well-trained, motivated and skilled aviation security workforce is a critical prerequisite for effective civil aviation.

2.5 For that reason, the UAE GCAA will host an Aviation Security Culture Webinar “Fostering Aviation Security Culture“ from 21st to 25th November 2022, in coordination with international partners, such as (DfT) UK, (TSA) USA, (BPOL) Germany and (OTS) Australia, to further promote aviation security culture and the importance of human factor at airport, national and international levels, as a part of planned activities to mark the UAE National Aviation Security Week. The Workshop is intended to further foster aviation security within the aviation stakeholders, through presentations and discussions on recent developments in aviation security. A number of virtual presentations will be delivered by aviation security experts related to promotion of security culture, emerging threats to civil aviation, challenges faced by Aviation Security following recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, Aviation Security Research – Human Factor, Cybersecurity and Cyber Threats to Civil Aviation, Screener accreditation scheme, enhanced screening etc.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) officially recognise and promote aviation security roles as a critical prerequisite for effective civil aviation, in order to attract, manage, reward and retain competent aviation security professionals, as well as for the motivation and performance of the aviation security workforce that is essential for civil aviation; and
- b) acknowledge the importance for ICAO, States, relevant organisations, industry and stakeholders to continue practical actions towards the enhancement of security culture in civil aviation

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