



**Opening Address by the Secretary General  
Inauguration/opening ceremony for ENAC  
Toulouse, 15 December 2010**

It is both a pleasure and an honour to be invited to inaugurate the Ecole nationale de l'aviation civile (ENAC) in Toulouse as an ICAO Aviation Security Training Centre (ASTC). I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Patrick Gandil, the Director General of the French Civil Aviation Authority and to Mr. Marc Houalla, the Director of ENAC, as well as to all others who contributed in making this achievement a reality.

As we all are aware, aviation remains a key target for terror attacks. This was highlighted by the discovery of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) on 29 October 2010 inside two packages shipped from Yemen and by the attempted sabotage of Northwest flight 253 on 25 December 2009. These events underscore the continuing need for a high level of vigilance to prevent acts of unlawful interference with civil aviation.

The importance of aviation security worldwide was reaffirmed on 8 October when the 37th Session of the ICAO Assembly unanimously adopted a Declaration on aviation security. The Declaration urges the enhancement of international cooperation to counter threats to civil aviation. Importantly, the Declaration recognizes the essential role of human factors and training in a strong global aviation security regime.

For many years, ICAO has actively supported States in implementing aviation security measures as defined in the international Standards and Recommended Practices of Annex 17 by building a network of Aviation Security Training Centres covering all ICAO Regions and languages. The ASTCs use ICAO training materials that are continually updated to keep in step with the evolving Standards, best practices and other developments in aviation security.

There are now 20 ASTCs delivering high quality, standardized training to develop the knowledge, skills and competencies of the aviation security workforce. It is a great pleasure for me to welcome the Ecole nationale de l'aviation civile (ENAC) Toulouse as the 19th ASTC.

Awareness for the importance of security measures to protect civil aviation from acts of unlawful interference has a history in France and this history has a name. It is a special honour for me to welcome my dear friend Mr. Jean – Francois Bouisset , originator and author of the first written security texts in French legislation and the senior CAA official responsible for aviation security between 1986 and 1993 to this prestigious ceremony.

The endorsement of ENAC as an ASTC, with its unique history and experience in providing training in all disciplines in civil aeronautics since 1948 (first in Paris, and since 1968 in Toulouse) was the next logical step. ENAC will form a very valuable extension to ICAO's global ASTC network. ENAC's fine modern infrastructure, capable instructors, experience in the field of aviation security training and course development, and its capacity to provide courses in different ICAO languages, will greatly support ICAO in conducting high quality training and assistance.

In February 2011, the Directors of all ASTCs and the ICAO Secretariat will meet in Quito to discuss and coordinate global aviation security training for the coming year. The group will also focus on the importance of cooperation and coordination between the ASTC as we meet future challenges in aviation security. ENAC will now be a contributing member of this group, which will benefit from ENAC's long and rich history as a training institution.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome ENAC in the family of ICAO Aviation Security Training Centres and to see ICAO's flag proudly exhibited here in ENAC. Let me conclude by once again expressing my sincere thanks to all of you who were involved in making this happen.

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