Joint Declaration

Brussels, 17 May 2022

At a critical time for the restart of aviation and in which the labour market is particularly challenging, partly due to the impact of Covid on air transport, ACI EUROPE, ASSA-i and EOS highlight the opportunities that new technologies offer to improve aviation security when they are combined with effective and efficient security officers and procedures.

With this statement, the community of Airports, Private Security and Detection Equipment Manufacturers express their willingness to work together closely at every level, to optimise the performance of new technology and equipment, including but not limited to Automated Prohibited Items Detection Systems (APIDS) with the following objectives:

- Optimise equipment and human-machine performance to deliver the best overall security outcome and operational effectiveness;
- Have a better understanding of the profiles, skills and training required for security officers working in conjunction with new technology;
- Understand how technology affects staffing levels required to ensure the smooth operation of the security process in the given operational environment to support strategic planning of security officer workforce.

To this end, ACI EUROPE, ASSA-i and EOS encourage their members to work proactively together as early as possible in the process of designing and introducing new equipment and processes, and to provide feedback on trials wherever possible to the aviation security community, with a focus on lessons learned and best practices. Enhancing cooperation at every level will enable faster and more efficient operational deployment of innovative security concepts. Areas in which we particularly encourage more focus and feedback include:

- Security officers' profiles and skills supporting improved performance;
- Input on possible operational processes and concepts of operation that enhance operational efficiency, detection and overall security outcome;
- Adaptation of training and how this could be incorporated in future training curricula, including how operators are taught to work with additional detection algorithms, understand what to expect from it (and what not to expect), and how their skills add to the whole process;
- Potential impact of new technology on passengers;
- Any other aspect that may help predict the impact of new technologies on operations and prepare for various scenarios.

With this enhanced cooperation, using as much input and feedback as possible from actual trials, ACI EUROPE, ASSA-i and EOS also aim to work closely with the authorities to help them adapt Aviation Security legislation to new equipment, technologies and processes, while ensuring the highest level of security.

In this critical time, our organisations remain highly committed to making sure that passengers and goods fly smoothly, safely, and securely.

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