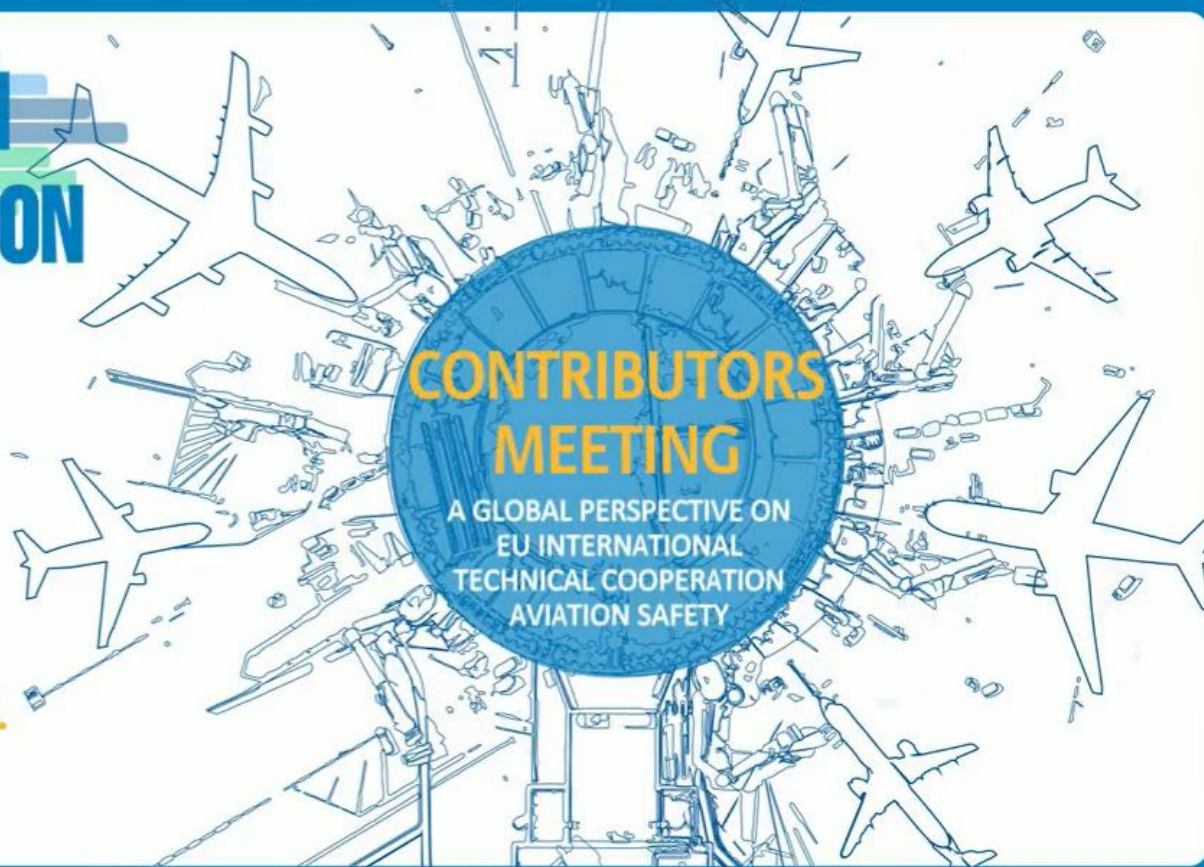


**EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION  
AND  
EASA**

**CONTRIBUTORS  
MEETING**

A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE ON  
EU INTERNATIONAL  
TECHNICAL COOPERATION  
AVIATION SAFETY

**17 - 18  
MARCH 2021**



# 2021 Contributors meeting

17 – 18 March 2021

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
**European Union Aviation Safety Agency**



# 2021 EU Conference on Technical Cooperation in Civil Aviation

## Executive summary

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The fourth edition of the EU Conference on Technical Cooperation in Civil Aviation, commonly called “contributors meeting”, was held on 17 and 18 March 2021. The conference was co-organised by the European Commission and the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA).

It involved EU National Aviation Authorities (NAAs) and Ministries of EU Member States, international bodies (ICAO and others) and European Industry. Other than in previous years, the conference had to be held in a web-based format due to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

The high stakeholder interest confirmed again the excellent opportunity to share objectives and interests in international technical cooperation and to foster joint initiatives and cooperation at EU level.

The conference addressed matters like the global response of the aviation sector to the pandemic, international technical cooperation challenges, initiatives and priorities, both at regional and at global level. On the second day, the Steering Committees of the four Aviation Partnership Projects (APPs) between the EU and China, South East Asia, South Asia and Latin America & Caribbean, convened.

***“A close coordination and alignment of international technical cooperation actions, mutual support and commitment are essential to successfully achieve European objectives at global level”***

The participants commonly emphasized that a close coordination and alignment of international technical cooperation actions, mutual support and commitment are essential to successfully achieve European objectives at global level.

## Aviation industry representation

Airbus Helicopters

Volocopter

ACI Global

Vertis Environmental services

Rolls-Royce International

ERA  
**Airbus**

Drones Alliance Europe

EBTC

ENAIRE

Leonardo

ATR  
ENAC

TUI

ACI Europe

Lilium

Navblue

## Main conclusions

Technical cooperation with partner countries in civil aviation is an important part of the external aviation policy of the European Union. It increases the visibility of European aviation expertise, contributes to safe, secure and sustainable aviation worldwide, and supports market access and commercial opportunities for the European aviation industry.

Project sponsors, Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI) and DG MOVE, emphasized that with its particular technical expertise and experience in managing technical cooperation projects, in particular aviation partnership projects, EASA has proven to be the key partner for both the European Commission, for third country authorities and for the European Industry for the successful implementation of these projects.

It was furthermore emphasized that technical cooperation projects are an excellent vehicle to increase the European footprint at the international level. The European aviation sector benefits from these initiatives through more

competitiveness and a level playing field for industry. The harmonisation of rules and increased trust in the EU aviation system lower the of barriers for market access and provide for business opportunities outside Europe.



The negative impact of COVID 19 on international cooperation activities was acknowledged. However, the common efforts and agility of all parties was positively noted. The flexibility to amend technical cooperation contracts and work-plans to the new conditions, in particular travel restrictions, the implementation of new ways of working at project level, and the commitment to maintain and achieve the project objectives, were regarded as an appropriate reaction to the pandemic challenges.

***Safer and greener aviation with a significantly increased EU footprint and enhanced competitiveness of the EU aviation industry will be the priorities for international cooperation projects going forwards.***