

PRESS RELEASE

The European Union supports Georgia in strengthening the structure and capabilities of Georgian civil aviation

Over €1 million in support for the institutional development of the Georgian Civil Aviation system

Tbilisi, July 10th, 2015

The European Union together with the Austrian Civil Aviation Agency - Austro Control GmbH (ACG), the Croatian Civil Aviation Agency (CCAA) and the Georgian Civil Aviation Agency (GCAA) launched a new Twinning Project for allowing the GCAA to adopt the European regulations and requirements, stemming from the Common Aviation Area Agreement between Georgia and the European Union and its Member States (CAA-A). The official presentation of the Project (kick-off event) was held on Friday, 10th July, 11:00am at Courtyard Marriott.

The Director of the Georgian Civil Aviation Agency Mr. Guram Jalaghonia, the Minister of Economy Giorgi Kvirikashvili, Head of EU Assistance Coordination Department from the State Minister's Office on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration Mr. Roman Kakulia, Deputy Head of Operation Section of the EU Delegation to Georgia Mr. Stephen Stork and Honorary Consul of the Republic of Austria to Georgia Ms. Eva Berger attended the kick-off event.

The EU Twinning Project "Legal approximation of Georgian Civil Aviation regulations with EU standards" with an accredited budget of €1,23 million will aim to introduce European standards in civil aviation system and to improve the legal framework regulating the sphere of civil aviation in Georgia. This will result in much more safety and security of the civil aviation system overall.

During 21 months, Austro Control GmbH in cooperation with the Croatian Civil Aviation Agency will work with the Georgian Civil Aviation Agency on the key actions:

- Identifying draft/updated regulations in accordance with the EU aviation legislation
- Establishing a legal mechanism and relating legal amendments for fast track adoption procedure applicable to new or modified European Civil Aviation requirement (regulations, directives, decisions, AMCs, Guidance Materials and Certification Specifications), to allow Georgia to react in a timely and comprehensive manner
- Establishing a continuous progress monitoring system to follow GCAA's actions, built on transparent and focused indicators ensuring effective execution of the concepts, frameworks, regulations, policies and procedures after their adoption.

The Project has two major components:

- Developing a coherent system of GCAA procedures, manuals, aligning the system with international regulations and
- Capacity building of GCAA personnel. In this regard, Austrian and Croatian short term experts will train the GCAA staff, both through study visits in the Twinning Partner States and particularly through training seminars, workshops and practical work on site in Georgia.

The project takes the form of a Twinning. It brings together national bodies of the EU Member States and Georgian Institution in order to transfer "know how" and harmonize laws and regulations with the European standards.

Background:

Twinning is a European Commission initiative, which brings together public sector expertise from EU Member States and beneficiary countries with the aim of enhancing co-operative activities. Twinning projects must yield concrete operational results for the beneficiary country under the terms of the Association Agreement between that country and the EU. The European Commission is the EU's executive body.

For additional information, please visit: http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/tenders/twinning/index_en.htm.

For more information:

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**CIVIL AVIATION
TWINNING GEORGIA**

This project is funded by
the European Union

