

The Use of UAS to Protect Vulnerable Targets Including Soft Targets Like Football Event



*United Nations International Expert Group Meeting on
the Protection of Vulnerable Targets and Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)
06-07 October 2021 (Virtual Event)*

Why?

Threats to
players, officials,
Spectators and
VVIPs

What?

Requirements of
the CAF Safety &
Security
regulations

How to?

Overview of safety
and security
measures for sites

Best Practice

Key focus areas
and examples

| Key Objectives

- 1** Understand the threats to the players officials and VVIPs across the event footprint
- 2** Understand the CAF requirements
- 3** Understand the use of UAS as a protective device
- 4** Key recommendations

| Role & Importance of Players, Officials, Spectators and VVIPs



Players, officials, Spectators and VVIPs play a crucial role in any sporting event.



Spectators rush to the stadium to see their favourite **players**. They want to enjoy a **great moment** watching them on the pitch.



Officials (referees and other CAF representatives etc.) are a critical part of the match. It cannot take place without them.



The participation of **VVIPs** (government members, sponsors, etc.) is important because they are often facilitating, supporting, and financing several different activities related to matches / football activities.



| Threats to players, officials, Spectators and VVIPs



What are the main issues and threats to players, officials, Spectators and VVIPs in connection with matches across the world?

| Background – Recurring issues (general)



- **Failure to plan** for a proportionate response to the risks at each match
- As a result – **disproportionate response** to issues and incidents
- **Overzealous policing** outside and inside of the stadium
- **Disruption to orderly ingress and egress** because of arbitrary closures
- Lack of integrated planning results in **chaos on the pitch and in the tribunes**
- **Exceeding of maximum safe capacity** and having to use pitch areas as overspill for spectators to prevent a disaster in the tribunes
- **Poor risk assessment**

| Background – Recurring issues (Players & Officials)



- **Failure to secure pitch** and control access – intentional pitch incursions (one or a few people) and pitch invasions (many people)
- Lack of **effective access control** to the competition area – breaches by people with malicious intent
- **Too many people gaining** access to the competition area and pitch who do not have a working role (including public in some cases)
- **Attacks on players and officials** or their vehicles / dressing rooms
- **Various injuries** to people caught up in the chaos
- **Reputational** issues to all parties concerned

| Background – Recurring issues (VVIPs)



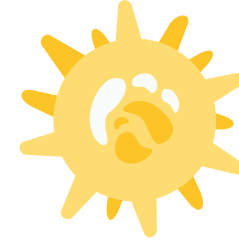
- **Failure to inspect VVIP facilities** before the day of the match
- **Failure to agree a plan** together with the relevant governmental authorities and VVIP representatives
- Failure to **stick to the agreed plan**
- **No accreditation / poor implementation of accreditation** in place
- **Distraction of security forces** including security officers due to VVIP presence and failure to police all of the stadium as a result
- No control on **entourage of the VVIPs**
- **Too many people** in the VVIP area with no obvious means to identify who is who (e.g. no access devices)
- **Overzealous policing** and arbitrary closures of areas, routes etc.

| Emerging Threat to sport events



- **Unmanned Aircraft Systems**

| Threats to Players, Officials, Spectators and VVIPs



New type of threat:



- Sport event organisers over the years have come up with ways to manage the known and conventional threats to sport events
- We must now take into account the emerging threat to sport events It should be part of our safety planning from now.



| The Impacts



Protecting players, officials, Supporters and VVIPs has a big impact on the match / event itself.

The positive outcomes of protecting players, officials, supporters and VVIPs for the event are:

- Smooth match operations
- Safety and security of everyone involved
- Tranquillity of the match
- Setting a good example for supporters
- Respect
- Label of quality

| The Impacts (cont'd)



However, we must keep in mind that any failure on protecting those particular people can result in:

- Match cancellation / abandonment
- Disorder in the stadium
- Injury / Death
- Host country / club / team reputational damage
- Financial loss
- Negative economic impact
- Political issues
- CAF / FIFA disciplinary action



| CAF Safety & Security Regulations



C2

**Article 7 –
Cooperation with
Public Safety and
Security Authorities**

C5

**Article 25 –
Safety of the Visiting
Team**

C6

**Article 35 –
Limitation of Spectator
Movement**

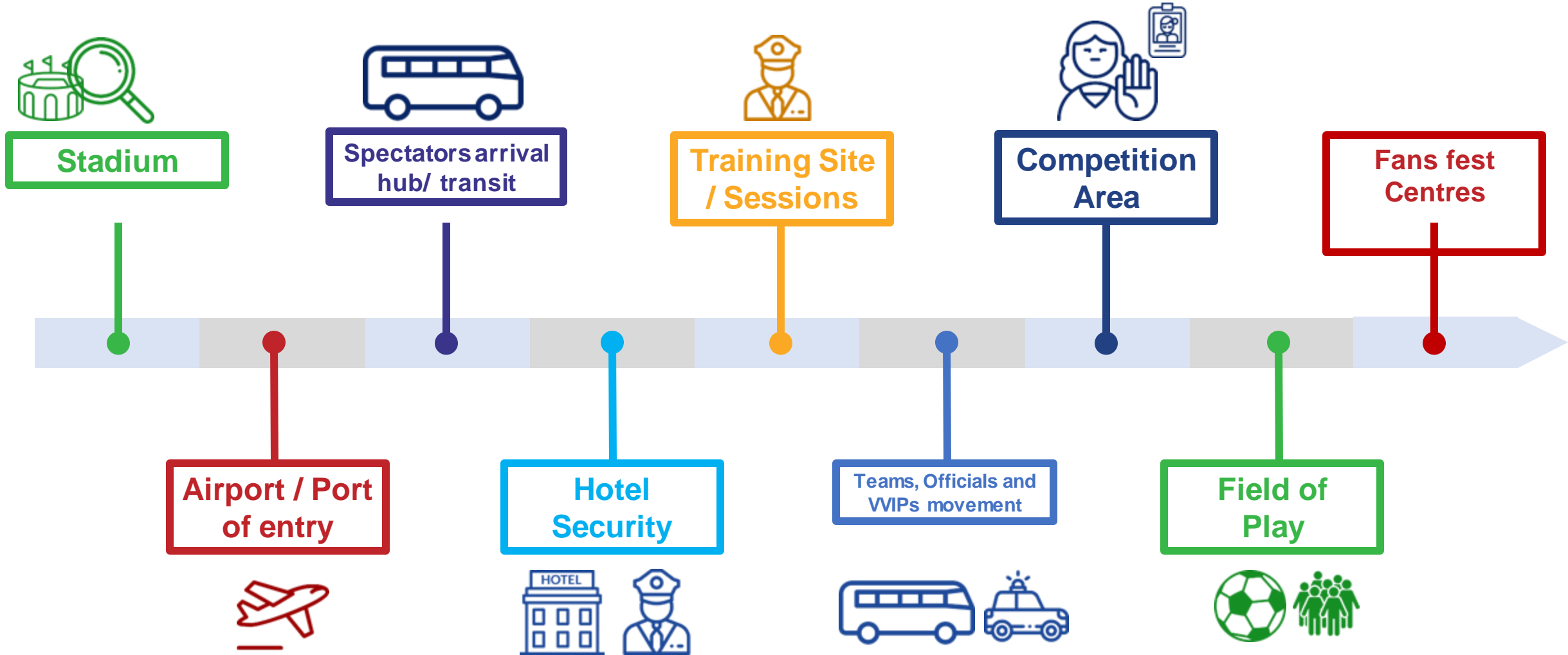
C6

**Article 38 –
Protection of the Field
of Play**

The background of the slide is a green-tinted photograph of a white Stabus bus. A large crowd of people is gathered around the bus, many with their arms raised in celebration. The word 'Stabus' is visible on the side of the bus. The entire image has a green overlay.

Implementation of operational procedures

| Key focus areas



Cooperation with Public Safety and Security Authorities

We at CAF do operate a no fly zone policy during our competitions and this is often achieved through our cooperation with the host government safety and security authorities



|Exceptional Approval for the use of UAS



CHAN Beau- Limbe UAS operations (VVIP Protection)



Exceptional Approval for the use of UAS



CHAN Beau- Limbe UAS operations (VVIP Protection)



| Key recommendations

The use of **UAS** must be guided by certain international conventions and national regulations

Production companies of these devices must also sign to these regulatory conventions

The point is that efforts should be geared towards ensuring that the manufacturing and sales of these machines is well managed

National governments should set licensing criteria for its use within their territories

These criteria's must always be guided by the possible havoc that can be done with this equipment should it get to the wrong hands

Finally, I thank UNOCT and all her partners for extending this invitation to me

Thank you all for listening?

