

PRESS RELEASE

GESAC AND ACEN SIGN PROTOCOL ON LEGALITY, TRANSPARENCY, SAFETY AND SUSTAINABILITY IN PROCUREMENT FOR NAPLES AIRPORT MASTERPLAN 2035

Naples, 28 September 2026 – Legality, transparency, safety and sustainability are the guiding principles for the projects planned under Naples International Airport's Masterplan 2035, which provides for more than €250 million in investments to develop and upgrade the airport.

Antonio Savarese, President of ACEN – the Association of Building Contractors of the Province of Naples, and Roberto Barbieri, Chief Executive Officer of GESAC, the company managing Naples and Salerno Airports, have signed the "Protocol on Legality, Transparency, Safety and Sustainability in Procurement", with the aim of translating these principles into shared rules and concrete measures to be applied throughout the entire procurement cycle, from tendering to project execution. The Protocol will apply to works procurement procedures launched by GESAC and will guide the preparation of tender documents, specifications and contracts, strengthening the principles already established by law through practical measures.

In terms of **legality**, GESAC and ACEN undertake to strengthen the prevention of unlawful practices and criminal infiltration throughout the procurement supply chain, including through cooperation with Prefectures, law enforcement agencies, the Labour Inspectorate and the competent authorities.

Transparency will be ensured through the digitalisation and traceability of procedures: tender notices, tender rules, specifications, award criteria and results will be published on certified digital platforms, while contracts, invoices and payments will be traceable throughout the supply chain. Award criteria will recognise technical quality, occupational safety, environmental sustainability and technological innovation.

Particular attention is devoted to **safety and the protection of workers**. Compliance with social security contribution obligations, workforce adequacy requirements, the proper application of collective bargaining agreements and health and safety regulations will be verified throughout the duration of contracts. In tenders awarded on the basis of the most economically advantageous offer, companies guaranteeing workers pay levels above the minimum rates established by collective bargaining agreements will also be rewarded through the allocation of specific additional points. This commitment will extend to any subcontractors and will be verified during the execution of the works. Regular training, risk monitoring, internal audits and coordination meetings will also be promoted at construction sites, with activities immediately suspended in the event of serious dangers to workers.

The fourth pillar is **sustainability**, regarded as an integral part of the entire contract lifecycle. The Protocol provides for the application of Minimum Environmental Criteria (CAM), measures to reduce emissions and energy consumption at construction sites, the use of sustainable materials and circular economy principles, material recovery and recycling, traceable waste management and measures to

limit the impact of construction activities on water, soil, air quality and biodiversity. Specific indicators will enable monitoring of energy and water consumption, CO₂ emissions and material recovery.

The effective implementation of these commitments will be overseen by a **Permanent GESAC-ACEN Technical Committee**, tasked with monitoring specific indicators, analysing any critical issues, identifying corrective actions and preparing a report every six months on implementation of the Protocol.

*“The Masterplan represents a major investment in the future of Naples Airport and the city. However, the quality of the infrastructure must go hand in hand with the quality of the processes through which it will be delivered,” said **Roberto Barbieri, Chief Executive Officer of GESAC**. “Together with ACEN, we wanted to turn legality, transparency, safety and sustainability into concrete commitments, establishing a shared framework of rules and controls that will accompany the implementation of the projects. We want to protect workers, recognise qualified and responsible companies, and ensure that this major investment programme generates lasting value for the airport, the city and the surrounding area.”*

*“The Protocol signed by GESAC and ACEN represents a clear commitment and a modern model of operations and management, placing at its heart the fundamental values of our approach to doing business: legality, transparency, recognition of the value of work and environmental sustainability. I thank GESAC’s CEO and management,” said **Antonio Savarese, President of ACEN**, “for recognising that the delivery of major infrastructure depends not only on financial investment, but also on the quality of the rules governing procurement and of the companies entrusted with the work. This joint effort strengthens the bond of trust between the public and private sectors, an essential prerequisite for urban regeneration and sound social and economic development across the region.”*

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