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MULTINATIONAL ADVISORY GROUP

CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION

28th MULTINATIONAL ADVISORY GROUP MEETING
09-10 October 2012
RACVIAC, CROATIA

Chairman’s Conclusions

Hereby, I provide you with my Conclusions from the aforementioned Meeting:

**Agenda Item 1: The 28th MAG Meeting Opening and Adoption of Agenda, Introduction of Participants**
The Agenda was adopted with no further amendments.

**Agenda Item 2: Director’s Interim Report**
MAG took note of the Director’s Interim Report.
MAG delegates expressed their gratitude to the outgoing RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Nikola Todorčevski and welcomed the incoming Director, Ambassador Branimir Mandić.

**Agenda Item 3: RACVIAC Programme 2013, Programme Projections 2014-2016**
MAG approved the RACVIAC 2013 Annual Programme.

In order to avoid the repetition of Programme activities and to fulfil substantial needs of the region, the Republic of Serbia has proposed that in the future submission of the existing version of the Questionnaire to the Member countries for their input is avoided. Instead, the Member countries themselves should make proposals of activities to the Centre, in accordance with their recognized needs which the Management would then group into one of the three Pillars and submit to MAG for adoption.

The Republic of Serbia is considering hosting the activity on Search and Rescue (IRC-7-P).

The Republic of Croatia confirmed financial sponsorship of two RACVIAC activities amounting to 10,000.00 € (2X5,000,00 €).
Hungary will support RACVIAC Programme 2013 by hosting the Vienna Document 2011 activity.

Bosnia and Herzegovina will host the activity IRC-4-S and is considering hosting the activity IRC-06-P.

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* is considering possible hosting of the activity IRC-05-CF.

Austria confirmed its readiness to contribute to RACVIAC Programme Part of the Budget with 30,000.00 € for three activities (one in the CSE & two in the SSR Pillar).

Norway will continue with its financial support to RACVIAC activities in the SSR and the IRC Pillar.

Germany expressed its readiness to support RACVIAC activities, facilitating lecturers, instructors and needed personnel, on the case-by-case basis. A decision for financial support has to be determined.

The RCC Secretariat will coordinate with the Croatian Military Intelligence future activities to be planned within the SEEMIC (SEE Military Intelligence Chiefs) Forum and will inform the RACVIAC Management, in due time, about the details (names of the activities and financial support).

MAG took note of the presentation given by the DCAF Ljubljana and welcomed their readiness to co-organize with RACVIAC the activities on Border Management within the SSR Pillar.

MAG took note of the NON-PAPER on Rationalization of Regional Defence Cooperation Endeavours in the South East Europe and the Western Balkans prepared by the Slovenian Delegation.

**Agenda Item 4: Financial Issues**

MAG took note of the RACVIAC Budget 2012, allowing RACVIAC Management to use all available funds in the Operating Part, including the overheads from the current year, if necessary, in order to complete the approved Programme 2012.

MAG took note of the Greek statement that they would pay their financial contribution for 2012 as soon as the execution of 2012 Budget of Greece allows so.

MAG took note of the Greek statement about changing their status to that of an Observer for the time being, due to the current financial situation in the country, and that an official request in that regard will follow.

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* Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name
Taking into account the Greek statement about temporarily changing their status (to that of an Observer), MAG took note of the Operating Part of the Budget 2013 as presented, and approved the distribution table for 2013, bearing in mind that Greece did not pledged any specific amount as a financial contribution for 2013. Recalculation of the Budget should be made as soon as possible, but NLT February 2013. Furthermore, new recalculation of the Budget 2013 should be made before the spring MAG Meeting.

MAG took note of the decreasing trend in Associate Members' contributions and of the need to address this issue adequately.
MAG encouraged those Associate Members that have not pledged any contributions for 2013 so far to consider providing support to the Centre, which is indispensable for the Programme realization.

MAG encouraged the establishment of a Programme Development Group, which should meet regularly and timely to primarily deal with launching of new ideas to improve RACVIAC Programme.

MAG was informed about the ongoing work of the IMWG (Internal Multinational Working Group).

MAG took note of the Romanian statement that Romania will fulfil its financial commitments as soon as the national ratification process of the RACVIAC Agreement is finalized.

With regard to the travel reimbursement policy, MAG allows RACVIAC Management to make exceptions from the already approved travel policy (up to 10%), and should be informed accordingly. In case RACVIAC activities are sponsored by other international organisations, RACVIAC Management could apply the travel reimbursement policy of these organizations, if it is a benefit for RACVIAC.

**Agenda Item 5: RACVIAC Personnel Situation**
MAG took note of the RACVIAC personnel situation and firmly urged RACVIAC Members and Associate Members to positively respond to the Vacancy Notifications, and to provide other forms of support to RACVIAC activities.

**Agenda Item 6: Host Nation Agreement between RACVIAC and the Republic of Croatia**
MAG has authorised the Director to sign on behalf of RACVIAC the Host Nation Agreement, the text of which should receive final approval of the Turkish side.

**Agenda Item 7: Nomination of the New MAG Chairperson**
Taking into consideration that MAG did not reach a consensus on the nominees from two countries (the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Serbia), MAG has decided to extend the MAG Chairmanship of Major General Zyber Dushku for one additional month, thus giving the opportunity to two countries to reach an agreement. If the agreement is reached, MAG
Chairperson will inform MAG about the name of the new Chairperson. If the agreement is not reached by the 12\textsuperscript{th} of November 2012, by the end of the day, in accordance with Article 8.2 of the RACVIAC Agreement, MAG will extend the term of the current MAG Chairperson for an additional year.

\textbf{Agenda Item 8: Date and Venue of the 29\textsuperscript{th} MAG Meeting}
The date for the next MAG and Budgetary Meeting is 16-17 April 2013 in RACVIAC or in the respective country of the MAG Chairperson.

\textbf{Agenda Item 9: Miscellaneous:}
The Chairman urges Members and Associate Members having read the draft Agenda and the attached documents to send the delegates to the MAG Meeting with full mandate to decide on the issues as stated in the Agenda.

\textbf{Agenda Item 10: Conclusions}
MAG adopted the Conclusions.

Major General Zyber Dushku
Land Forces Commander
Albanian Armed Forces
MAG Chairperson