



Centre for Security Cooperation



Overview

Conference on Partnership Policy and Smart Defence in the Context of the New NATO Strategic Concept

Dates 25 - 27 September 2012

Venue(s) Training Centre Poljče, Bled, Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia

Background After the Chicago NATO Summit, the Alliance and its Partners are facing numerous challenges with regard to the expansion of partnership policy, limitation of resources, the need to reconcile values and interests, and engagement of partners in emerging security challenges. Hence, there is a clear need to assure access to the global commons, building capability through multinational and innovative approaches and future development of partnerships and outreach.

These partnerships make a valued contribution to the success of NATO's fundamental tasks. Furthermore, dialogue and cooperation with partners can make a concrete contribution to enhancing international security, to defending the values on which the Alliance is based, to NATO's operations, and to preparing the interested nations for NATO membership.

In the crisis time, while cuts in defence budgets present a great challenge for policy makers, planners and officials in Security Sector. Currently, procurement is among the most strategically relevant and financially difficult segments of national defence systems. Apart from outsourcing, introduced two decades ago, and recognized as an important defence resource management tool, today we are facing economic and financial crisis that brought us to a new concept in Defence System, the Smart Defence. In this regard, practices and experiences with the effects of outsourcing and efforts in implementing the Smart Defence concept on national defence sectors are more than relevant to address with due care and sensitivity.

Purpose & Objectives The purpose of this event is to foster and support the Partnership and Smart Defence by prompting participants to discuss, share and exchange information and best practices:

- a) To present conclusions of the last NATO Summit held in Chicago with focus on Smart Defence and Partnership policy as important messages for both, member and aspirant countries;
- b) To examine regional prospects of NATO partnership and to inform the SEE countries about the contribution of the SEE to NATO-led missions in the pre-accession phase and its impact towards full NATO membership;
- c) To promote the required deeper and wider partnerships for the accomplishment of goals in order to build capability through multinational and innovative approaches in order to strengthen NATO's relations with Partners;

d) To present Smart Defence Concept and challenges of outsourcing;

e) To present the necessity for cooperation in defence and security sector in the SEE and beyond in order to develop capabilities with the purpose of improving and maximising efficiency and effectiveness;

f) To present national presentations and information's on existing and future common projects in the SEE region, (i.e. Joint participation in the Crisis Management Operations, Balkan Regional Approach to Air Defence - BRAAD, Regional Training Centres and etc)

Participants Participants from each of the signatory countries of the RACVIAC Agreement, who are either civilian or military officials at decision-making levels, and experts representing relevant ministries dealing with planning and policies (1 participant), international cooperation (1 participant), planning/procurement and finance (2 participants). Representatives of other MAG countries and relevant international organizations, NGOs and the media will be invited.

Methodology The Conference will last for two days and will comprise lectures and discussions. The working language will be English.

POCs Lt Col Neven BAJIC
SSR Pillar, Activity Coordinator
Tel. 00385 1 333 0 853;
Fax: 00385 1 333 0 834;
E-mail Address: nbajic@racviac.org
Web: www.racviac.org

Mr Milan JANICJEVIC
IRC Pillar, Activity Coordinator
Tel. 00385 1 333 0 836;
Fax: 00385 1 333 0 839;
E-mail Address: mjanicjevic@racviac.org
Web: www.racviac.org