

## SACT visits the Netherlands - ACT

Written by Administrator  
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Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, French Air Force General Stephane Abrial visited the Netherlands September 7.

During his visit, Abrial met the Netherlands Chief of Defence, General Peter van Uhm and high-ranking staff members of the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During these meetings, they discussed the issue of the Netherlands' Armed Forces transformation and conferred on topics related to cooperation in this domain.

Abrial cited his appreciation for the Netherland's support for the ACT-led Task Force on Multi-National Approaches and Innovative Solutions, and offered ACT's continued support for their transformational efforts.

"It is truly a great pleasure to scan the strategic and transformation landscape with you as we begin an eventful year, which for NATO will culminate with an important summit of the Heads of State and Government in Chicago in May 2012," said Abrial.

They also discussed on the next DEU-NLD exercise that will take place at the end of September in order to better prepare for future missions. General Abrial stressed that this exercise, based on the lessons learned from Uruzgan is a very good example on how to integrate Comprehensive Approach and how to work together with civilians and military in a crisis situation.

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In the evening, Abrial delivered a lecture to the members of the KVBK (Koninklijke Vereniging ter Beoefening van de Krijgswetenschap), the Royal Netherlands Society for Military Art and Science.

During this lecture, Abrial spoke on the importance of a reinforced solidarity and of multinational cooperation between allies to face difficult financial times.

“We simply need to do better in developing capabilities within the envelope we are given,” said Abrial. “Our Alliance has remained strong for over six decades, and, hopefully with ACT’s support, the time has come to go even further than we already have in working together.”