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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Media Advisory**

**NATO to host the first Innovation Thru Inclusion event on International Women's Day 2019**

**NORFOLK, Va.** – The North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) Supreme Allied Commander Transformation Headquarters, alongside the Norfolk NATO Festival, will recognize International Women's Day during an Innovation Thru Inclusion Conference at the Waterside Marriott Downtown Norfolk on March 8 at 2 p.m.

General Andre Lanata, Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, will provide opening remarks for the event.

The Innovation Thru Inclusion Conference will welcome several guest speakers, including Dr. Christine Darden (from the book *Hidden Figures*), Dr. Stephanie Adams (Dean of Old Dominion University's Frank Batten College of Engineering and Technology), NATO Defense College Commandant Lt. Gen. Chris Whitecross and NATO-ACT's Chief of Staff Vice Adm. Paul Bennett.

International Women's Day is not only a day when the NATO Alliance expresses its appreciation of and gratitude toward all women, but also a day of acknowledging the work done by women serving and working in its ranks every day to enhance the future. As a political-military organization with 29 nations and several partners, NATO benefits from the exceptional diversity of its staff comprised of women, men, military, civilians and international interns.

Following the presentations, panel discussions and questions from attendees, a light reception will take place.

All interested media must register on the event's website and with U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Dawn Stankus ([dawn.stankus@act.nato.int](mailto:dawn.stankus@act.nato.int), +1-757-685-9814) in the Allied Command Transformation Public Affairs Office by **4 p.m. EST on March 7**. Media are expected to arrive at the Waterside Marriott no later than 1 p.m. on March 8 to be escorted to the event location. Additional details will be provided to media following their registration.

For additional details about the conference and to register, please visit: [www.event.com/d/46qjvw](http://www.event.com/d/46qjvw)

For more information on NATO's Allied Command Transformation mission and leadership biographies visit: <http://www.act.nato.int/>

Please visit NATO's Allied Command Transformation electronic media kit at: <https://www.act.nato.int/media-kit>