

SACT attends meeting of NATO Defence Ministers - ACT

Written by editor
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Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, French Air Force General Stephane Abrial, advocated multinational approaches during the [Defence Ministerial](#) October 5-6 in Brussels.

Abrial had the opportunity, during a working session, to report on the mandate conducted by ACT on multinational approaches to capability development in the context of the Smart Defence initiative.

The goal of smart defence, initiative launched by the Secretary General is to promote more coherence and more effectiveness in defence spending in NATO member states in order to ensure a greater security in working together. With the financial crises, it is vital to preserve NATO capabilities. And the best way to do it is to go multinational with the whole idea that “the best security is shared security.”

As one centrepiece of NATO’s smart defence initiative, ACT has led a task force across NATO aimed at identifying new opportunities for multinational collaborations. The group has presented its final report and identified over 150 ideas and among them, a dozen projects are already off the ground, especially in maintenance, logistics and training fields.

“I am very grateful for the positive response we have already had from the Nations,” said Abrial. He further explained that now they should consider firming up commitments to carry forward those projects that are ready for implementation and to identify additional projects more

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significant, ambitious and newsworthy.

He also explained that in response to the request from the Secretary General, in tandem with Deputy Secretary General, Ambassador Bisogniero, he will consult them soon.

“I do believe that by working together we can achieve surprising results,” said Abrial. “We all know the old adage that necessity is the mother of invention. I also subscribe to the belief that financial adversity can also be the mother of invention or of new ways to achieve the most from what we have available.”