

22th of January

MCCS Session 6

14H40-15H40

1-Brief by HQ ACT (BI-SC MPD)

2-“SACEUR will deliver an update on partner contributions to operations, the Operational Capabilities Concept and strategic/regional engagement”.

Then;

*3-“SACT will have an opportunity to **comment** on strategic engagement with partners”.*

On ne peut douter que le futur de l'Alliance repose entre autre sur sa capacité à faire progresser les partenariats existants et à ouvrir la porte à de nouvelles coopérations, quand et là où c'est possible.

Comme vous l'avez entendu, nous possédons tous les outils, y compris une expérience riche, pour pouvoir intégrer les partenaires dans nos activités de formation d'entraînement ou de planification ainsi que dans nos exercices et nos opérations.

Lors de la dernière conférence de partenariat militaire très fructueuse que nous avons organisée à Stockholm en juin 2013, nous avons entendu le souhait de nos partenaires d'améliorer l'interopérabilité, de participer à CFI ou d'investir dans les projets de Smart Défense. Beaucoup d'entre eux ont également souligné leur engagement à contribuer aux opérations de l'OTAN, à la NRF, à l'entraînement et aux exercices.

For the future I see, flexible and topic-driven frameworks as a key enabler to coordinate cooperation with willing Partners into functional clusters. When Allies and Partners share security interests and habits of working together through these kinds of clusters, even difficult questions of availability and employment of multinational capabilities in NATO exercises and NATO-led operations are easier to solve. The Nordic Defence Cooperation is a good example of this.

The Smart Defence initiative has also proved to be an opportunity to develop NATO's relationship with the European Union. The work being done through this initiative enables stronger cooperation with our NON NATO/EU nations (within the agreed framework) and more generally to build trust and confidence with our partners.

Operations have without a doubt been a key driver for broadening and enhancing NATO's partnerships. They demonstrate how our partnerships have developed pragmatically, based on shared strategic interests and common perspectives.

Since, the Alliance is engaging in a new era of preparedness, we are committed to keep this spirit alive in promoting, all together, existing tools in the most coherent and pragmatic manner for the mutual benefit of NATO and of its partners.

Thank you.