



NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

**SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER
TRANSFORMATION**

**SACT REMARKS to
NATO Defence Ministers meeting**

Brussels, October 8th 2015

Général d'armée aérienne Mercier

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION



SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER TRANSFORMATION

Trident Juncture 15, the biggest NATO exercise since 2002 has just commenced. It symbolizes the new face of the Alliance which has significantly adapted its approach to training and exercises, through 3 major shifts.

First to increase quality and realism. Scenarios reflect the tenets of high intensity and modern warfare, including aspects such as Cyber, Ballistic Missile Defence, hybrid and asymmetric warfare. Forces and Headquarters' readiness and responsiveness are evaluated as well along the Readiness Action Plan requirements.

The second shift, towards Partnerships and experimentation. NATO exercises associate many Partners, the EU, included in Trident Juncture 15 is the certification of the EU Battle Group from the Visegrad Nations, and many other International Organizations, NGOs band also Industry. Trident Juncture is a laboratory in which new concepts and doctrine are going to be tested, through close collaboration with NATO's Centers of Excellence. Industry observers will directly interact with operators to better understand their environment with the aim at providing better oriented and innovative solutions.

And third, the implementation across all transformational initiatives to get connected, interoperable, agile and resilient forces from the higher HQs down to the tactical level.

In closing, I would like to thank all participating Nations and especially Italy, Spain and Portugal for their outstanding support in hosting this exercise.

As a flagship and tangible output of Transformation, I believe that TRIDENT JUNCTURE 15 contributes to Allies' assurance and, taking place in the South, demonstrates the Alliance readiness to cope with global challenges on all azimuths.