



RECORDS OF DISCUSSION

DEFENSE MoU ATTACHÉS GROUP MEETING

Thursday December 14th 2023, 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Hosted at Embassy of the Netherlands

Opening by the Chair

- DMAG Chair distributes new pins to all members. A big thank you to Mr. Erwin Koeken (NLD) and Reto Weber (SWI) for the initiative. Pins are for DMAG members and friends of the Group.
- Chair welcomes Lithuanian representatives as observer to the DMAG.
- Lithuania looks forward to become full member in January 2024. Members applaud and welcome new representatives to the Group.
- Welcome to new secretary of DMAG Sebastian Ziermer (GER).
- Chair reads article in *Armed Forces Journal* of September 1995 by the chair of the so called "informal Defense MoU Group" COL Kiemeneij called "Pothole in the two-way street. It's time the US treated its Defense partners as true partners", a concluding sentence: "MOU countries [...] advocate being exempted from US domestic source restrictions that are not based on vital national security considerations. Such an exemption will bring mutual benefits to all of us by making available better products at more competitive prices".
This article from 1995 proves the continuous battle of the DMAG on protectionist policies...and value of outcome off this years' NDAA.
- Chair therefor thanks the members for their support this year as the National Defense Authorization Act has been signed by the House today and is ready to be finalized by POTUS. DMAG letters in May and September and endorsements by individual countries have encouraged the US Senate to object language on enhanced domestic content requirements in the final Bill. The language of senator Baldwin was dropped in discussions between the big four. Chair is pleased to see recognition of RDP MoUs in the final Bill, however DMAG stays opposed to enhanced domestic content requirement. Next spring we will draft a letter to the House again.
- UK rep, Mr. Graham Farnworth, thanks chair and dep chair Einar Gustafson for their efforts in DMAG this year on the Hill.
- Chair reflects on successful talk with Government Accountability Office whom is drafting rapport on the value of RDP MoUs. GAO rapport will bring fruit to discussions and recognition of the qualifying countries hopefully. DMAG suggested to increase awareness and improve training of procurement officers on advantages on RDP MoUs.
- Joakim Lewin (SWE) adds that report likely will not be ready before the fall of 2024.

Review of the previous DMAG meeting record of discussion

Date of meeting needs to be changed to FRI 27th. No further comments.

Report from the Executive Committee

Discussion on House and Senate version of the NDAA and meeting with GAO.

Report from the Working Group on Industrial Base Cooperation (IBCWG)

Chair IBCWG, Joakim Lewin:

- Use of NoForn on procurement documents too often to exclude primes and Sub-Contractors
- Request for more examples of NoForn usage and its impact on companies/contract awards
- WG has received limited input so far.
- WG need more examples from countries and industries where possible.
- Members are invited to join the working group.
- WG looks forward to engage with A&S on the implementing strategy of the first National Defense Industrial Strategy (NDIS). NDIS will provide avenues for discussions on collaboration.

Report from the Working Group on Export Controls (ECWG)

Chair ECWG, Martti Wallin (FIN):

- WG sees three avenues for future working on momentum of 1. the National Defense Industry strategy 2. AUKUS EC reforms and 3. recent changes in EC-regulation by commerce for example regarding the Australian Group and MTCR.
- Chair is working on Terms of Reference and is hopeful this can be shared with DMAG in January session.
- Currently the Group consists of 5 people. The trainee of the Netherlands has not been involved yet.

Report from the Working Group on Cyber (CWG)

Chair CWG, LCDR Alain Gilbert (CAN):

- Inviting Ms. Stacy Bostjanick to speak early next year about CMCC 2.0.
- Bostjanick has a full agenda we have to deal with. Perhaps combine meeting CMCC with future DMAG meeting.

Other Issues Affecting Members

Representative Ori Katsav (ISR) elaborates on the usefulness of the bilateral security of supply agreement US-ISR, signed in Feb 2023, supporting current ISR operations since October 7th.

Action Items

- LKOL Erwin Koeken will order new coins based on the recent logo that was agreed upon.
- Outreach with Baltic states ongoing. DMAG is enthusiastic about Lithuanian future membership.
- Chair mentioned he had spoken with future chair of FPG.

Upcoming DMAG Meetings/Events

Chair asks members for hosting meetings in 2024.

Defense Cooperation Events

SEA-AIR-SPACE in April 2024.

Guest Speaker: Cynthia Cooke and Alexis Lasselle Ross of Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) talked about the Defense Industrial Strategy (NDIS).

DMAG will engage with authors of implementing strategy NDIS to seek maximum involvement from allies and partners.

DMAG Secretariat

JAN 26 2023