

**RECORD OF DISCUSSION**  
**DEFENSE MOU ATTACHÉS GROUP MEETING**  
**Thursday, September 23<sup>th</sup> 2018 10:00-12:00**  
**Embassy of the Netherlands**

**ATTENDEES**

| Tim Sneek              | Chairman          |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Einar Gustafson        | Vice-Chairman     |
| Nicole Herzog          | Secretary         |
| Dr. Karl-Heinz Seekatz | Financial Officer |
| Pieter-Henk Schroor    | Netherlands       |
| Adam Culley            | Australia         |
| Andreas Stauber        | Austria           |
| Janne Jokinen          | Finland           |
| Nicolas Tessaud        | France            |
| Matthias Balthasar     | Germany           |
| Emmanouil Stefanakis   | Greece            |
| Harald Vasset          | Norway            |
| Manuel Belluga         | Spain             |
| Augustín Caballero     | Spain             |
| Ola Alfredsson         | Sweden            |
| Håkan Söderstedt       | Sweden            |
| Francesca von Grebmer  | Switzerland       |

**1. OPENING / INTRODUCTION BY THE CHAIRMAN AND HOST**

- Tim Sneek, Defense Cooperation Attaché and Chair of DMAG, welcomed the DMAG to the Embassy of the Netherlands.
- The Chair welcomed Einar Gustafson as new Vice-Chair and introduced his successor Mr. Pieter-Henk Schroor as Chair.
  - The symbolic handover of Tim Sneek's position to Pieter-Henk Schroor took place at the end of the meeting.
- The Chair welcomed the following new members, who introduced themselves:
  - Mr. Pieter-Henk Schroor
    - Successor of Tim Sneek - Netherlands
  - Cdr. Harald Vasset
    - Successor of Maj. Alf Johnsen – Norway
  - Cdr. Augustín Caballero
    - Successor of Cdr. Francisco Nuñez – Spain
  - Mr. Håkan Söderstedt
    - Successor of Mr. Peter Hällkvist – Sweden

- The Chair explained the new members what exactly DMAG is, which tasks it (should) fulfil and where there is the difference to FPG.

## 2. REVIEW OF THE RECORD OF DISCUSSION OF THE PREVIOUS DMAG MEETING

- Concerning point 8 “Other Issues Affecting Members”, bullet 2 Lorna Prosper informed the Secretary that the Navy International Programs Office (NIPO) has been represented by Mr. Stephen Bowdren at the last FPG meeting on 6 June 2018.

## 3. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS FROM THE PREVIOUS DMAG MEETING

- Since the Chair will presumably leave the US on 1 October 2018, the symbolic handover of his position to his successor, Mr. Pieter-Henk Schroor, took place at the end of the meeting.
- Finance – Financial Officer:
  - The Chair and Dr. Karl-Heinz Seekatz informed the members that just some documents have to be signed so that there should be no more obstacles to transfer the bank account.
    - They are expecting that the transfer will be done at the beginning of the 38<sup>th</sup> calendar week.
  - As soon as this has happened, Dr. Seekatz will inform the members on the financial status after transition and from this point frequently report on all financial transactions.
- DMAG Website:
  - Lt Col. Emmanouil Stefanakis presented the members the new DMAG Website (<https://dmagmou.wixsite.com/mysite>), which has the same structure like the old one.
    - Lt Col. Stefanakis will send out the link to the website to the members via the Secretary so that at least some of them can already try to login to the private area of the website.
    - At the moment, the website runs with advertisements; to get rid of these advertisements a domain name has to be bought.
      - ✚ Lt Col. Stefanakis will inform the members about the exact price, which he assumes should be around \$150-200 per year, at the next meeting.
      - ✚ Andreas Stauber is of the opinion that it would be better to run the website without any advertisements.
    - The DMAG members agreed that under the section ‘Members’ / ‘Active Members’ the name as well as the flag of the respecting nation will be represented.
  - Adam Culley raised the concern that it might be hard to get in contact with DMAG if there are no contact details on the public page.
  - The Chair and Matthias Balthasar proposed that the DMAG Logo should only be on the front page so that it would not disturb the text as well as the other pages.
  - The Chair got note from the previous webmaster, Mr. Frank Branker, that the members need to decide if they would like to keep the domain name <http://dmag.info>.
    - The DMAG members agreed that the old website should be deactivated.
    - Dr. Seekatz suggests to make a clear cut especially with Mr. Frank Branker.
      - ✚ Everybody agreed.
  - The Vice-Chair raised the question who will maintain the website in future and if there are any volunteers for doing so.

- Adam Culley confirmed that he will try to get Mike Miller, Director of the Office of Regional Security and Arms Transfers (RSAT), as a guest speaker.
  - Mike Miller already agreed to take part in a meeting but couldn't make it yet due to his schedule.
- The Vice-Chair volunteered to host the November meeting if there will be no meeting with the NDIA representatives in Philadelphia, PA.
  - Also Maj. Kathie O'Brien from the Canadian Embassy offered to host the meeting in November.
- The Chair, who attended both ComDef on 5 September 2018 and the farewell party of Mr. Matthew Warren, Director, International Armaments Cooperation (OUSD AT&L), could represent DMAG very well.
  - The Chair presented his point of view regarding ComDef and underlined the technical discussion as well as the sections where licensing is moving.

#### 4. U.S. EXPORT CONTROL ISSUES

- The Export Control Reform Act (ECRA) became law on August 13, 2018.
  - It is the permanent statutory authority for the EAR, which is administered by the U.S. Department of Commerce's BIS.
    - The new law codifies long-standing BIS policies and does not require changes to the EAR, such as to its country-specific licensing requirements.
  - The ECRA can be downloaded on Kevin Wolf's website (<https://www.akingump.com/en/news-insights/the-export-control-reform-act-of-2018-and-possible-new-controls.html>).
- Dr. Seekatz asked the members about their experiences regarding the approval time by the Department of Commerce; the DoC announced at the ComDef that they would need approx. 2 weeks for an approval
  - Col. Nicolas Tessaud agreed with Dr. Seekatz that the Department of Commerce is very quick in dealing with approvals.
  - Both the Chair and Adam Culley outlined that only DDTC needs so much time and that time and patience are required which can be frustrating.
    - In this context Dr. Seekatz remarked that the behaviour of DDTC is very passive and not proactive, especially when it comes to open questions by DDTC representatives who need days to confirm a reply.
    - Adam Culley informed the members that they have already had the same discussion at the Australian Embassy.
      - ✚ Adam Culley and Dr. Seekatz are of the opinion that it might be helpful to address this issue to Mr. Mike Miller.

## 5. EXECUTIVE ORDER

- The Chair informed the members that the Executive Order on the Industrial Base from April 2017 has been also discussed at ComDef.
  - A part of this report has been already published but not all.
  - The Chair would like to keep the Executive Order on the agenda so that further discussions are possible.
  - Furthermore, the Chair and Adam Culley are of the opinion that it is relevant for DMAG and that DMAG should keep an eye on it.

## 6. DMAG Coin

- Since there has been no representative of Italy, there are no updates.

## 7. LEVEL OF AMBITION / WORK PLAN 2017

- See point 3.

## 8. OTHER ISSUES AFFECTING MEMBERS

- Austria would like to make a small market study on cyber and security or defense.
  - Thus Andreas Stauber asked the members if one of the other nations has already something like that or knows some experts.
  - If this is the case, he would like to ask the members to send the details either to him directly or to the Secretary.

## 9. UPCOMING DMAG MEETINGS and EVENTS

- Mr. Joseph P. Welsh (Rhoads Industries, Inc.) invited the members to come to Philadelphia, PA, on 15 November 2018 to see either the region as well as the industries.
  - The Chair and Pieter Schroor are in contact with Mr. Welsh and will come up with further information as soon as possible.

| Month         | Host        | Details/Date                                          | Guest Speaker |
|---------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| TBD           | Denmark     | Social Event                                          | TBD           |
| October 2018  | Germany     | Regular meeting postponed to November 1 <sup>st</sup> | TBD           |
| November 2018 | NDIA, PA    | Regular meeting November 15 <sup>th</sup>             | TBD           |
| December 2018 | Switzerland | Regular meeting December 13 <sup>th</sup>             | TBD           |

## 10. DEFENSE COOPERATION EVENTS

- One-day training courses offered by the Embassy Guild (<http://www.embassyguild.org/>).
  - Courses are exclusively designed for Ambassadors, diplomats, military officers and foreign business leaders to get all necessary knowledge and tools to effectively navigate Washington and to deliver ones Embassy's message to those who matter.
  - In particular the course "The Politics of US Defense Policy" has been highly recommended by several DMAG members that already attended.
- The Society of International Affairs (SIA) offers training on a regular basis on export and import licensing. SIA interests cover the entire spectrum of licensing issues pertaining to the Department of Commerce, Defense, State and Treasury (<http://siaed.org/>).

## 11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- No updates.

*Drafted by Nicole Herzog, Secretary of DMAG*

