

**Military Strategic
Partnership Conference, Jordan 25-29 MAR 2019
Partners Session Subject Concept Note**

Subject for Partners Discussion on 25 MAR 2019:

**NATO Security Policies and
Information Sharing with the Partner Nations - Challenges and Impacts
on Effective Cooperation**

1. BACKGROUND

NATO Security Policies and supporting directives have been developed in order to set pre-conditions for implementation of security measures and use of security products to protect information processed, stored or transmitted (handled) in correspondence, communication, electronic systems, and supporting system services and resources, against loss of confidentiality, integrity or availability. Information protection is considered as one of the highest priorities, especially in the era where cyber defense has become one of war fighting domains. However, it has been observed that such set up could have an impact on daily exchange of classified information with majority of the Partner nations, even those Partner nations which are operational partners in certain NATO missions. Secondly, current information protection measures have impact on employment of personnel from the Partner nations on Partner Staff Positions in a way that this personnel has limited access to classified areas and networks. Similarly, Partner Nations Military Representatives at SHAPE are exposed to number of restrictions, which have direct negative impact on their ability to perform their function (i.e. reading classified documents only, without being provided conditions to produce classified assessments, reports or similar documents on the premises where their work).

Therefore, above mentioned challenges generated by implementation of NATO security policies deserve attention as an important subject for discussion among the Partner nations with the aim to provide views and suggestions to NATO to identify possible solutions to those issues and in that way improve cooperation effectiveness as well as Partners' attention.

2. AIM

The aim of this session is to, by raising common awareness on existing information sharing challenges, seek for possible solutions to decrease negative impact on cooperation between NATO and the Partners in this domain in the future.

3. OUTPUT

- a. To understand current NATO information sharing policies with the Partners,
- b. To understand classified information sharing challenges that the Partners experience when interacting with NATO,
- c. To generate an informed set of proposals seeking for decrease of negative impacts of information sharing challenges on effective cooperation between NATO and the Partners.

4. EXPECTATIONS

- a. From the Conference participants:
 - Proactive participation in sharing national/functional view on issues related to the topic.

b. From Presenters:

- An identified volunteer presenter to inform the audience on a functional/national view on the matter,
- Those having .ppt, to send the presentation to the POC NLT 20 MAR 2019.
- The presenters need to submit any admin or other support regarding the presentation together with the presentation.

5. THE CONCEPT OF THE SESSION (cca 90 mins)

- **Introduction (10min):**

- o 10 min - Moderator will open the topic session by providing background information about the importance and relevance of the topic. Moderator will briefly explain the flow of the topic session.

- **Main body (70 min):**

- o 30 min - Presentation from NATO representative on the current NATO information sharing policies,
- o 10 min (x3) – Presentations from volunteer national/functional (PSP, PNMR) perspectives on experience wrt classified information sharing
- o 30 min – Panel discussion - presenters will sit in the panel to elaborate on their perspectives based on the questions from the audience.

The note keeper will record all the comments.

- **Conclusion (10 min)**

The Moderator will close the panel. At the end of all topic sessions, the summary of outputs will be shared by the Moderator to the audience.

Next day, on Tuesday, 26 March 2019, by Conference agenda Dean of PNMR together with PD EXO Col. Schwab will present the outcomes to all conference participants.

The key points derived from the topics will be reported to the higher NATO authorities to improve and adjust existing, or develop new mechanisms to progress the NATO-Partner cooperation.

6. POC for further enquires before the Conference:

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