



SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED POWERS EUROPE
GRAND QUARTIER GÉNÉRAL DES PUISSANCES ALLIÉES
EN EUROPE
Mons - Belgium



SH/PD/MIC/DW/22-1018

7 November 2022

TO: See Distribution

SUBJECT: **INVITATION TO NATO AND PARTNER NATIONS TO THE MILITARY STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE 2023 IN DOHA, QATAR**

REFERENCES: A. ACO.3949.8
B. Bi-Strategic Command Directive 087-002, dated 27 Aug 2013.

1. In 2023, the Partnership Directorate (PD) will conduct the annual Military Strategic Partnership Conference 2023 (MSPC 2023), from 13 March – 17 March 2023, in Doha, the capital of Qatar (QAT). Parallel to the Conference, we will host an exhibition of NATO and Partner Nation's Training and Education facilities accessible for Partner Nations and a Professional Development session for Partner Nation Command Senior Enlisted Leaders (CSEL).

2. I cordially invite you to attend the Conference, and to support this critical event in the annual cycle of the NATO-Partnership community. We look forward to hosting this conference that serves to build the personal relationships that are so important to the development of mutual understanding and partnership. In 2023, we will widen the audience by including more exhibitors from the training community, Partner Nation CSELs and more SMEs to discuss topics of interest. We will also offer a virtual format for the Bilateral Discussions, upon request, in order to assist those Partner Nations that might otherwise be unable to attend.

3. My objectives for the Conference are to advance NATO partnership processes and programmes; secure planning efforts; and, provide at minimum an 80% solution to 2023/24 Partner Capitals' ambitions for Education, Training, Exercise and Evaluation (ETEE). Furthermore, I expect to exchange information between NATO and Partners on new developments in Cooperative Security, and to discuss partnership topics of interest during the reintroduced Panel Discussion portion of the Conference. Of course, I am open to suggestions for topics that may be of interest for the participants, either to be discussed in plenary or bilateral sessions. Please raise these to the POCs contained within this letter.

4. This year I am pleased to highlight the CSEL Professional development Workshop that will be part of the Conference. Between, 15 and 16 March 2023, the ACO CSEL will host a two-day workshop to promote mutual understanding with Partner Nation CSELs. To that end, all CSELs from our Partner Nations as well as from across the ACO Command Structure are invited to MSPC23 along with their national or organizational delegations.

SHAPE
7010 Mons, Belgium
Office : +32 65 445766

NCN 254-5766
Fax : +32 65 443545 (Registry)
darcy.wright@shape.nato.int

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5. It is of crucial importance that all NATO Commands and entities, included in the distribution list send adequate numbers of SMEs / Desk Officers / Country Engagement Officers to cover all planned parallel Bi-Lats (minimum of 4 consecutive sessions) and to participate in the plenary sessions.

6. Dress throughout the conference will be suitable business attire. The wearing of uniforms is restricted to HN personnel only. No application for the deferral of this policy will be accommodated. Please pay close attention to all relevant information and deadlines provided in the Annexes. Visa support will be available for those Nations that require a Visa for QAT. For further information, please visit our Conference website at <https://shape.nato.int/upcoming-events/military-strategic-partnership-conference-2023> All administrative issues related to the Conference will be handled online through this website.

7. For questions, please contact our MSPC team: darcy.wright@shape.nato.int or wade.morris@shape.nato.int. I very much look forward to meeting and engaging with the partner representatives and stakeholders who can attend this important annual event.

FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Gunnstein BRUASDAL
Rear Admiral NOR N
Deputy Chief of Staff, Partnerships Directorate

ANNEXES:

- A. MSPC 2023 DRAFT Overview Agenda (as of 3 November 2022)
- B. MSPC 2023 Administration Instructions

DISTRIBUTION:

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Action:

Partnership for Peace (PfP)

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Mediterranean Dialogue

Defence Attaché, Embassy of Algeria in Brussels
Egypt PNMR
Defence Attaché, Embassy of Israel in Brussels
Jordan PNMR
National Staff Army, MDP, Mauritania (Hard copy and email)
Morocco PNMR
Tunisia PNMR

Istanbul Cooperation Initiative (ICI)

Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain, Brussels, Belgium
Defence Attaché, State of Kuwait, Brussels, Belgium
Defence Attaché, Embassy of Qatar, Brussels, Belgium

Partners across the Globe (PatG)

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Iraq PNMR
Defence Attaché, Embassy of Japan, Brussels
Defence Attaché, Embassy of Mongolia, Brussels

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Defence Attaché, Embassy of New Zealand, London, United Kingdom
Defence Attaché, Embassy of Pakistan, Paris, France
Defence Attaché, Embassy of the Republic of Korea, Brussels
Maltese Deputy Military representative to the EUMC, by e-mail: joseph.i.spiteri@gov.mt

Partnerships Interoperability Advocacy Group, by e-mail: PIAG-XO@bmlvs.gv.at

All NATO NMRs at SHAPE
All NATO Embassies in Doha, Qatar (via NMRs at SHAPE)
German Embassy Doha, NATO Contact Point Embassy
Director FINCENT, Helsinki

CSEL Conference Invitees

Sara.CATTERALL@ac.nato.int
Marie.Walton@lc.nato.int
Georges.Martin@lc.nato.int
C.KOENIG@mc.nato.int
Stanley.RYAN@jfcbs.nato.int
Roman.BRKOVIC@shape.nato.int
Andree.Tschense@jfcnp.nato.int
Kevin.MATHERS@shape.nato.int
theresa.askew@us.af.mil
Corriveau.Marc@natoschool.nato.int
Stephan.Kobel@vtg.admin.ch
kolesal@hotmail.com
solis.mariusz@hq.nato.int
clinton.b.miller.mil@army.mil
Alexander.CHERNUSHIN@shape.nato.int
Paola.PASINI@shape.nato.int
Filippo.BENEDUCE@shape.nato.int
scott.n.haymaker.mil@mail.mil
peeter.einbaum@baltdefcol.org
Kim.Doerr@jfcbs.nato.int

Information:

Senior Military Representative, United Arab Emirates Mission to NATO, Brussels, Belgium
NATO MLO Belgrade, e-mail: MLO@mlo-belgrade.nato.int
NATO MLO Tbilisi, e-mail: tesar.karel@hq.nato.int
NATO MLO Chisinau, e-mail: paclikova.barbora@hq.nato.int
NATO LO Kiev, e-mail: Dycha.Ferdinand@nro.hq.nato.int

IS PASP
IS DPP
IS OPS
IMS DGIMS
IMS CSD
COS HQ JFC BS
COS HQ JFC NP
COS HQ JFC NF
COS HQ LANDCOM

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COS HQ MARCOM
COS HQ AIRCOM
NSHQ
USEUCOM
USAFRICOM
CENTCOM, email: courtney.r.olson.mil@mail.mil
CSEL J5 AFRICOM, email: scott.n.haymaker.mil@mail.mil
NATO RSM EPCC, e-mail: cj7epccdep@hq.rs.nato.int
HQ NMI
NHQ Sarajevo
NATO School Oberammergau (NSO)
NATO Defence College (Rome)
Security Force Assistance COE (SFA COE)

Internal

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MSPC 23 –OVERVIEW AGENDA

ANNEX A TO
 SH/PD/MIC/DW/22-1018
 DATED 7 NOV 2022

Sunday, 12 March 2023

Time	Subject	OPR/Remarks
11:00 – 24:00	Arrival of participants; in-processing Opening hours of in-processing counters will follow	Hotel Lobby QAT/SHAPE PD Admin team

Monday, 13 March 2023

Time	Subject	OPR/Remarks
08:00	Conference In-processing	
09:45	Opening of the Exhibition – Runs 13-16 March 2023	ACOS MIC
10:00	MSPC 22 - Admin brief	Conf Coord/HN
10:05	DCOS PD Opening Remarks	
10:20	HN Opening Remarks	
10:35	DSACEUR Welcome Remarks	
10:50	Coffee Break	
11:05	Partnership today and in the future – Key note speeches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D&G from NHQ BRU (20 min) Mr. James Mackey • ACT Update (20 min) TBC • ACO CSEL (20 min) 	
1205	Lunch Break	
13:05	Current Perspectives on Partnerships	MG Diella IMS CS Director
13:25	Defence Capacity Building - NATO Perspective	IS Ops. Mr Bora Onen
13:45	Defence Capacity Building – A First Hand perspective	UKR Speaker TBI
14:05	Introduction to the Discussion Panel Topics	Conf Coord
14:10	Coffee Break	
14:45	Buses depart for NSA	QAT AF
15:45	Conference Photo	Conf Coord
16:00	Presentations from QAT Trg Centers	Conf Coord
16:30	Window Tours of NSA	QAT AF
17:30	Buses depart for Hotel	QAT AF
19:00 – 21:00	Ice Breaker	MSPC Core Team/Hotel

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Tuesday, 14 March 2023

Time	Subject	OPR/Remarks
08:30 - 1200hrs	Discussion Panel Topics: 1. Defining of Security Force Assistance and Capacity Building within the wider initiatives of NATO. How do we move forward? 2. NATO Education and Training and Partners. How do we improve access and tailoring of programs to meet mutual needs? OR 3. Developing Resilience within the Partnership world	Conf Coord DP#1 – ACT (SFA COE) + FINCENT DP#2 – ACT JFD Rep + FINCENT DP#3 – ACO Civilian Adviser +J9
10:30	Coffee Break	Conf Coord
12:00	Lunch	
13:00	NCOs in NATO and Partner Nations	CSEL PD DEEP
13:25	ePrime Updates and New Systems	Dr. Anna Boros
13:50	News from the NSD-Southern- HUB	Col Ghislain Lancrenon
14:15	Coffee Break	
14:45	NATO Training Developments	SHAPE J7 and ETEE
15:15	Partnerships in Energy Security	CCOMC PSA
15:45	Cyber Security Cooperation/ Factors/Themes	SHAPE CYBER
16:15	Setting conditions for productive Bi-Lats	Col Simsek SHAPE PD
17:00	Daily closing remarks	Conf Coord

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Wednesday, 15 March 2023

Time	Subject	OPR
08:00 – 18:00	Partnerships Bilateral (see separate Bi-Lat Schedule below)	MIC COE BH
09:00 – 18:00	Exhibition	CIV Paola Pasini, SHAPE PD
13:00 – 16:45	ePrime Instruction Lessons	Dr. Anna Boros
09:00 – 16:30	NATO's support to Partner Nation's NCO Corps (Split session 1)	ACO CSEL MARCOM CSEL SHAPE PD CSEL DEEP
1830 -	HOSTED DINNER	QAT AF

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Thursday, 16 March 2023

Time	Subject	OPR
08:00 – 18:00	Partnerships Bilateral (see separate Bi-Lat Schedule below)	MIC COE BH
09:00 – 18:00	Exhibition	CIV Paola Pasini, SHAPE PD
09:00 – 16:30	NATO's support to Partner Nation's NCO Corps (Split session 2)	ACO CSELs SHAPE PD CSEL DEEP
13:00 – 16:45	ePrime Instruction Lessons	Dr. Anna Boros

Friday, 17 March 2023

Time	Subject	OPR
08:30	Daily Admin remarks	MSPC Spokesman
08:45	Feedback from Bilats and NCO Sessions	COL SIMSEK & PD CSEL
09:00	Back Briefs/Feedback from WG Discussions (15 min each)	WG Leads
09:45	Farewell from QAT AF	QAF AF
10:00	Final Comments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from Dean of PNMR -10 Min • from NATO – 10 Min • DCOS PD Presentations – 20 Min 	? PNMR DCOS PD
10:40	Handout of Conference Products	MSPC Team
11:00	End of Conference	MSPC Team

BI-Lateral MACRO Program

Wednesday 15 March 2023

	<u>ME 1 - VTC</u>	<u>ME 2 – JFC BS</u>	<u>ME 3 –JFC BS</u>	<u>ME 4 – JFC NP</u>
<u>Chair</u>				
<u>0815-1015</u>				
<u>1030-1230</u>				
<u>1330-1530</u>				
<u>1545-1745</u>				

Thursday 16 March 2023

	<u>ME 1 - VTC</u>	<u>ME 2 – JFC BS</u>	<u>ME 3 –JFC BS</u>	<u>ME 4 – JFC NP</u>
<u>Chair</u>				
<u>0815-1015</u>				
<u>1030-1230</u>				
<u>1330-1530</u>				
<u>1545-1745</u>				

Friday 17 March 2023 (IF REQUIRED)

	<u>ME 1 - VTC</u>	<u>ME 2 – JFC BS</u>	<u>ME 3 –JFC BS</u>	<u>ME 4 – JFC NP</u>
<u>Chair</u>				
<u>0815-1015</u>				
<u>1030-1230</u>				
<u>1330-1530</u>				
<u>1545-1745</u>				

Partner CSEL Breakout Sessions

Wednesday 15 March 2023

Time	Subject	OPR/Remarks
0900 - 0930	Welcome and Introductions	
0930 - 1000	LANDCOM	
1000 - 1030	AIRCOM	
1030 - 1040	Coffee Break	
1040 - 1110	MARCOM	
1110 - 1140	JFC Brunssum	
1140 - 1150	Break	
1150 - 1220	JFC Naples	
1220 - 1330	Lunch Break	
1330 - 1400	IEAFA	
1400 - 1430	NSO	
1430 - 1440	Break	
1440 - 1510	SWISS School	
1510 - 1540	DEEP	
1540 - 1600	Coffee Break	
1600 - 1630	State Partnership Prog (SPP)	
1630 - 1900	Individual Reflection Time	
TBC	CSEL Photo	Date TBC

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Thursday 16 March 2023

Time	Subject	OPR/Remarks
0900 - 0930	Desk Officer Perspective (PD)	
0930 - 1000	PNMR Perspective (PD)	
1000 - 1020	Coffee Break	
1020 - 1050	e-PRIME/SAP Process	
1050 - 1120	PD Financial Process	
1120 - 1140	Break	
1140 - 1210	AFRICOM	
1210 - 1230	OCC Prog	
1230 - 1330	Lunch Break	
1330 - 1400	Baltic Defence College	
1400 - 1430	ACO CSEL	
1430 - 1500	Wash up. After Action Review	
1500	End of CSEL Conf	
1930 - 2100	CSEL Meal	Restaurant - TBC

MSPC 2023 Administrative Instructions

1. The Conference is an opportunity for partner nations and the NATO community to express their views on specific and general partnership requirements, including bilateral meetings on the following areas:
 - a. Ongoing cooperation activities: challenges, opportunities and shortfalls;
 - b. Current and future contribution to NATO missions and operations;
 - c. Proposed activities for 2023 and beyond;
 - d. Bi-lateral engagement and support between Allies and Partners;
 - e. Any other relevant topics of interest to individual partner nations.
2. As with past iterations, the Conference will bring together and provide access to a wide range of partnership stakeholders, including representatives from the International Staff (IS), the International Military Staff (IMS), the NATO Command Structure (NCS) at the Strategic, Operational and Tactical levels NCS associated NATO organisations (NSHQ, NRDCs etc.) and partner nations across all frameworks.
3. Representatives from NATO Education and Training Facilities (NETFs), Partnership Training and Education Centres (PTECs) and Centres of Excellences (COEs) engaged with partners on partnership activities are also invited to this event to exhibit and discuss current and potential future engagements with Partners.
4. MSPC23 will see the re-introduction of discussion panels on specific acute topics of interest across the Partnership Community. This year's topics will be:
 - a. Defining of Security Force Assistance and Capacity Building within the wider initiatives of NATO. How do we move forward?
 - b. NATO Education and Training and Partners. How do we improve access and tailoring of programs to meet mutual needs?
 - c. Cooperation in Maritime Security, NATO and abroad. How do we improve and expand?
5. MSPC23 will also see an expanded, two-day, Command Senior Enlisted Leader (CSEL) working group and discussion forum. All CSELs from both Partner Nations and NATO Commands are encouraged to attend MSPC23.
6. Bi-lateral discussions, already recognised as an extremely efficient tool for interaction with Partners and supporting agencies, require thorough preparation.
7. The number of participants at the conference per Partner Nation:

Non-Subsidized Partners	Subsidized Partners
Contingent: 6 Pers (CSEL are highly encouraged to attend)	Contingent: 2 Pers + PNMR + CSEL (TOTAL 4)
Exhibition: COE/School to determine numbers	Exhibition: 1 pers from applicable COE/School

8. NATO Schools and Alliance Members are at their discretion for the numbers of participants attending the conference.
9. Dress throughout the conference will be suitable business attire. The wearing of uniforms is restricted to HN personnel only.
10. General VISA-regulation / Entry procedures to Qatar.
 - a. Participants do not need a visa to enter Qatar if:
 - i. They hold a valid travel document issued in accordance with [Article 28 of the Geneva Convention](#);
 - ii. They are a citizen of a country indicated to not require a VISA for travel to Qatar. Generally, these are citizens of a GCC state. All other visitors will require a Visa of some sort.
 - b. Participants will **need a visa** if:
 - i. They are a citizen of one of the countries who require a Visa to enter QAT.
 - ii. 33 nations are eligible to apply for a single entry visa upon arrival in QAT. All others will need to apply for a Visa in advance of their departure. Check requirements <https://hukoomi.gov.qa/en/article/visas> .
 - iii. Participants can find detailed procedures for the application process for visas on the website of <https://visitqatar.com/intl-en/practical-info/visas/visa-details>
 - iv. It is advisable to check these website before applying for a visa, to make sure that you have the most up-to-date information.
 - v. Visa support letters will be provided upon request for those who may require to apply for a Visa prior to flying to QAT.

If there are further details regarding the visa application procedure for the MSPC 2023, they will be communicated after the 13 January 2023 via our conference webpage.

11. As interpretation services will not be available, consistent with past conferences, all participants will require a good working level of English.
12. Registration process for NATO and self-paying partners:
 - a. Registration via our website <https://shape.nato.int/upcoming-events/military-strategic-partnership-conference-2023>;
 - b. You will receive an automatic reply that we have received your registration;
 - c. Once we have approved registration, participants will receive a confirmation email with a link to the booking portal of the conference hotel with special rates;
 - d. Book your room according to the already submitted dates (hotel will handle the booking process and will send a confirmation);
 - e. If there are any changes, please submit those changes as a reply towards our confirmation email; and
 - f. Once your flights are booked, all flight details must be sent to Audrey.Richard@shape.nato.int

g. Registration deadline and flight details for self-paying partners and NATO is 13 February 2023.

13. Registration process for subsidised partners:

- a. Registration via our website <https://shape.nato.int/upcoming-events/military-strategic-partnership-conference-2023>;
- b. You will receive an automatic reply that we have received your registration;
- c. Once we have approved registration, participants will receive a confirmation email with further details. All other details will be coordinated by PD budget manager filippo.beneduce@shape.nato.int; and
- d. Registration deadline for subsidised partners is 09 February 2023.

14. Registration process for Exhibition members:

- a. Same procedure and deadlines as for NATO/Self-funding partners and subsidized partners (limit of 1 pers); and
- b. Arrival date for exhibitors is Sunday 12 March 2023.

15. Accommodation arrangements have been negotiated with the HILTON DOHA at the following daily rates:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| a. King / Twin Room (1 person) | 155 Euro |
| b. Standard Deluxe Room (2 persons) | 169 Euro |

The rates include Bed and Breakfast, Free Wi-Fi and taxes. For the conference the official arrival day is Sunday, 12 March 2023 and the official departure day is Friday 17 March 2023 afternoon. For the exhibition the official arrival day is Sunday 12 March 2023 and the official departure day is Thursday 16 March 2023. In case participants plan to arrive earlier or stay longer, or bring their spouse, participants must cover the additional costs themselves. PD staff will not issue any paper stating any duty necessity for extended stays. Rooms with above-mentioned rates are available 11 March 2023 (check-in) – 17 March (check-out). Closure of hotel booking link is 13 February 2023.

For further information or support please contact the MSPC 2023 core team.

For security and organisational reasons, all participants are requested to lodge in the HILTON DOHA. In case of any problems with booking procedure, or should you require to stay at another venue please contact Audrey.Richard@shape.nato.int.

16. The QAT MoD will provide bus transport to and from the airport for conference participants; as well as a limited number of VIP transport options for the conference VIPs. All transport will be between the airport and HILTON DOHA only. All registrants are to provide the core team with their arrival and departure flight details in order to ensure transport. We will communicate transportation regulations and details of bus timings after the 13 Feb 2023, via our conference webpage.

17. The conference fee will be 85 EURO. Payment to be made at the physical conference reception centre upon arrival at the HILTON DOHA.

18. Basic medical support will be available at the hotel through local 112/999 services. A travel health insurance is therefore recommended. The medical service provided during the conference is only for emergencies and situations that might arise during the conference.

19. Be kindly advised that there will be no separate spouse programme or cultural program. Spouses are welcome to attend the social events at individual participants' expense. For planning purposes, participants are requested to indicate (at the registration on our website) if they plan to bring their spouse (double room rate as per para 11). They are also invited to indicate if their spouse will attend the icebreaker and Hosted Dinner through the conference website at the time of registration. The HN upon arrival at the conference reception centre will communicate the cultural opportunities and venues that are available for you to visit in your spare time.

20. As an Islamic country, whose culture is heavily intertwined with its faith, laws are in place to protect various aspects of the Qatari way of life. However, though Qatar is fervent in its desire to protect the nation's heritage and culture, it also strives to be forward-thinking and a key player in the modern world. For social tips and a good background on our Host Nation visit: <https://www.living2022.com/explore-qatar/qatari-culture/cultural-etiquette-qatar/> Note that Qatar does not require special headdress for visitors (male or female) to the country. Drinking of alcohol is permitted within the confines of International Hotels only; however, public drunkenness is not permitted. Do not try to bring drugs, alcohol, pork products, pornography, religious books or materials into the country.