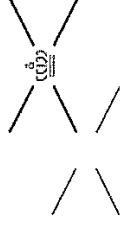


FORSVARSMINISTERIET
DANISH MINISTRY OF DEFENCE



Folketingets Forsvarsudvalg
Christiansborg

FORSVARSMINISTEREN
17 DEC. 2013

Det sidste nordiske forsvarsministermøde under det finske formandskab for NORDEFCO blev afholdt den 3. – 4. december 2013 i Helsinki. I samme forbindelse afholdtes ligeledes forsvarsministermøder i nordisk-baltisk og Northern Group regi. Der var generelt tale om gode og udbytterige møder, og på den nordiske del også med et antal helt konkrete resultater.

Jeg kan fremhæve underskrivelsen af en aftale - Memorandum of Understanding - til etablering af en fælles nordiske "pulje" af nordisk taktisk lufttransportkapaciteter (aftalen er vedlagt). Aftalen indebærer, at de nordiske lande vil kunne trække på hinandens ledige kapaciteter efter et nærmere defineret afregningssystem. Der arbejdes også videre med at se på mulighederne af etablering af en fælles nordisk lufttransportkommando og kontrol struktur for den taktiske lufttransportkapacitet. Det er særdeles positivt, at aftalen er underskrevet. Det er en vigtig milepæl for at udvikle et tættere samarbejde mellem de nordiske lande på det forsvarsmæssige område. Det er naturligvis rigtigt godt, at vi samlet set kan sikre en bedre udnyttelse af det samlede antal flytimer, som er til rådighed i Norden.

På mødet blev også den fælles nordiske vision for samarbejdet på det forsvarsmæssige område frem mod 2020 vedtaget (vedlagt). Vi er således kommet et rigtigt godt skridt videre med at udvikle samarbejdet med vores nordiske venner. Og der er lagt gode spor ud for det norske formandskab for det nordiske samarbejde i 2014.

På mødet blev der også orienteret om nordiske aktiviteter på det militære niveau. Der var også anledning til at drøfte situationen i Syrien og det nordiske samarbejde omkring kapacitetsopbygning i Østafrika.

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Fra dansk side blev møderne i Helsinki dækket på embedsmandsniveau, idet jeg selv var nødt til at dække det samtidige NATO udenrigsministermøde i Bruxelles.

Med venlig hilsen



Nicolai Wammen

Nordic Defence Cooperation 2020

We the Nordic Ministers of Defence strongly believe that deepened and strengthened Nordic defence cooperation will create opportunities for our respective countries to develop, maintain and use our military means more efficiently and in a more cost-effective manner. Despite different security affiliations there is substantial potential for further developing Nordic Defence Cooperation, which complements efforts in other international forums such as the UN, NATO and the EU. As stated in the Memorandum of Understanding on Nordic Defence Cooperation in 2009, the purpose and objective of the Nordic defence cooperation is to strengthen the Nordic countries' national defence, explore common synergies and facilitate efficient common solutions. An active Nordic cooperation and close security dialogue contribute also to global peace and security.

The following vision for the Nordic defence cooperation was adopted at the Nordic Defence Ministerial in Helsinki on the 4th of December, 2013. This vision will form the basis for the political guidance of the Nordic defence cooperation as we move towards 2020.

"By 2020 we envision an enhanced political and military dialogue on security and defence issues and actively seek for new possibilities for cooperation. We create efficient and cost-effective solutions based on a shared understanding of our mutual potential and challenges. We are committed to enhanced cooperation and coordination in capability development and armaments cooperation. We coordinate activities in international operations and capacity building, human resources, education, training and exercises. We seek to increase pooling of capabilities and to deepen cooperation in the area of life-cycle support of our defence inventories."

Facing common challenges and building smart solutions

The Nordic countries share common history, culture and geography. Our societies are founded on and guided by the same basic values – democracy and respect for human rights. The Nordic countries have a common interest in close cooperation to promote our security and defence and in addressing emerging threats and maintaining international peace and stability. The unpredictability and complexity of the future security environment, combined with economical austerity, will affect the Nordic countries individually, as neighbours and as a part of the wider international community.

The Nordic countries continue to seek possibilities for deeper regional and multinational cooperation with other countries and organisations, such as the UN, NATO and the EU. Close cooperation with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania continues to be important. Nordic cooperation is open to other third parties in selected activities based on mutual interests, operational output and cost-effectiveness.

Even though the Nordic countries have different membership obligations in NATO and in the EU, the Nordic cooperation can strengthen our respective countries' defence. Through close dialogue and cooperation, we improve situational awareness and common understanding of the security situation, exchange best practices and share lessons learned. We share the ambition to maintain effective and capable defence forces that protect and secure our respective societies. Nordic defence cooperation is flexible, pragmatic and transparent.

Using the capabilities we have and developing the capabilities we need

By 2020 transparency, consultations and coordination in planning for contributing to international operations will be established as routine. We share information of available force assets which facilitates Nordic contributions to international operations carried out by the UN, NATO or the EU.

By 2020 capacity building will be an integrated part of Nordic contributions to international engagements. The Nordic countries will have established a roster of specialists and military advisors to conduct capacity building and security sector reform tasks. The Nordic countries will be able to provide financial, material and advisory support.

Coordinated training and exercise programmes contribute to maintaining and developing capabilities. By 2020 cross-border training and exercises will be conducted on a regular basis among the Nordic countries covering the whole Nordic area. Movement of personnel and material will thereby be facilitated. Cooperation in air and sea surveillance of the Nordic region will be enhanced. Enhanced exchange of surveillance data with the aim of improving situational awareness will be carried out. Nordic countries will also cooperate to develop rapid deployment capabilities to be used for the NATO Response Force and/or the EU Battle Groups.

By 2020 the Nordic countries will have deepened their capability cooperation with the aim to increase systems similarity, including armaments, interoperability and shared solutions to identified capability gaps and shortfalls. Possibilities for pooling of capabilities and resources will be actively sought and the principles created for Nordic Tactical Air Transport (NORTAT) will serve as an example also for other cooperation areas. Joint Nordic acquisition will be enabled by the establishment of common processes and routines. We have established an ongoing close dialogue with the Nordic defence industry.

By 2020 the Nordic countries will work closely together through enhanced cooperation on military education and training. We build on experiences from the division of labour in conducting Nordic courses and the Nordic Centre for Gender. We also assess possibilities to establish Nordic combined education and competence centres.

The Nordic countries will exchange experiences on policies and procedures and coordinate efforts regarding veterans care.

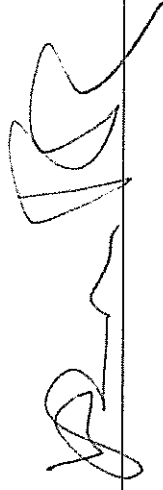
By 2020 secure lines of communication for the exchange of classified information will be established between the Nordic defence administrations based on a common Nordic analysis.

By 2020 dialogue and consultations between the Nordic capitals regarding security and defence issues will be regular. Transparency, information exchange and coordination in long-term capability development will be well established. National procedures, rules and regulations will be streamlined as much as possible and obstacles removed in order to enhance Nordic defence cooperation.

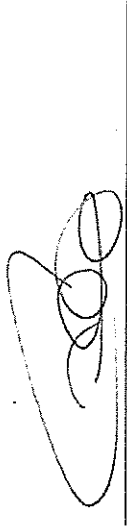
We will continue to be open to explore and adopt new beneficial possibilities for co-operation which may emerge.

Helsinki 4th December 2013

For the Ministry of Defence of Denmark



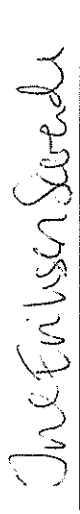
For the Ministry of Defence of Finland



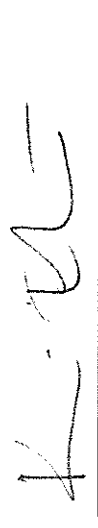
For the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Iceland



For the Ministry of Defence of Norway



For the Ministry of Defence of Sweden



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE KINGDOM OF
DENMARK**

**THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE KINGDOM OF
NORWAY**

**THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF
FINLAND**

**THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF ICELAND**

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN

CONCERNING

NORDIC COOPERATION

ON

THE UTILISATION

OF

AIR TRANSPORT ASSETS

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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of Denmark,

The Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of Norway,

The Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Finland,

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iceland, and

The Government of the Kingdom of Sweden,

Hereinafter to be referred to as "Participants";

Acknowledging the ambition of the partnership and cooperation that exists between the Participants, and desiring to further develop mutual relations in the field of Air Transport in a way that is based on mutual respect, confidence and good will as stated in the Letter of Intent concerning the establishment of Nordic Tactical Air transportation cooperation dated 5th November 2012;

Having regard to Nordic Defence Cooperation (NORDEFCO) Memorandum of Understanding signed 4th November 2009 and the general Security Agreement on Mutual Protection and Exchange of Classified Information dated 7th May 2010;

Recognising the Participants longstanding cooperation in NORDEFCO and other agreements as well as regular meetings of the Nordic Ministers of Defence and the annual meetings of the State Secretaries/Permanent Secretaries, Chiefs of Defence and other representatives of defence establishments;

Considering that the cooperation between the Participants can be the framework for further reaching international cooperation in wider coalitions and that an increased

efficiency and logistic synergy can be achieved by creating and promoting the cooperation between the Participants;

Have reached the following understanding:

Section 1. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) the following definitions will apply:

- 1.1. Participants are the signatories to this MoU.
- 1.2. Air Transport Assets: Air transport assets owned by the Participants, assets owned by the Participants in partnership with others, leased or rented by the Participants or otherwise made available to the Participants.

Section 2. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- 2.1. The Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty Regarding the Status of their Forces, done in London on 19th June 1951 (NATO SOFA).
- 2.2. The Agreement among the States parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the other States participating in the Partnership for Peace Regarding the Status of their Forces, done in Brussels on 19th June 1995 (PfP SOFA).
- 2.3. MoU concerning the Nordic Defence Cooperation (NORDEFCCO) dated 4th November 2009.
- 2.4. Letter of Intent on Nordic Tactical Air Transportation dated 5th November 2012.
- 2.5. ATARES Technical Arrangement regarding Mutual Support through Exchange of Services in the realm of air force activity dated 1st February 20011.

2.6. General Security Agreement on the Mutual Protection and Exchange of Classified Information, dated 7th May 2010.

Section 3. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- 3.1. The purpose of this MoU is to lay down guiding principles for the Nordic cooperation for the utilization of air transport assets in order to achieve and increase operational effects and cost efficiencies.
- 3.2. Cooperation under this MoU covers air transport assets owned by the Participants, assets owned in partnership with others, leased or rented assets or assets otherwise made available to the Participants.
- 3.3. The participants will make Air Transport assets available for the cooperation to a maximum extent, however each Participant retain the right to decide upon the commitment of assets available for cooperation.
- 3.4. The Participants will aim at negotiating common arrangements such as, but not limited to, leasing of civilian Air Transport Assets and Service and Support agreements, exploiting synergies from scale and reducing cost.
- 3.5. This MoU will under no circumstances preclude the independent execution of the Participants' respective national tasks as well as other international commitments.
- 3.6. This MoU is not intended to conflict with international- or national law of the Participants. In case of a conflict, international law and national law will prevail. The Participants will notify each other in the event of such conflict.

Section 4. PRINCIPLES

- 4.1. The Participants will offer available assets to each other using the ATARES system as preferred choice for compensation of executed services. If monetary reimbursement is used, assets will be offered to the lowest

possible cost and as close to self-cost as possible in compliance with the principles as laid down in this MoU.

4.2. The framework created under this MoU will ensure that the utilization of the assets of the Participants will be carried out through joint coordination and planning, furthering personal networks between the Participants and burden sharing based on joint transports or combination of training and transport needs.

4.3. The Participants will implement this MoU through arrangements concerning the details of the cooperation and other issues as deemed necessary. These arrangements will be laid down in Technical Agreements (TA) or other documents to be signed on military level. If any inconsistency or ambiguity exists between this MoU and related TA, the MoU will have precedence.

Section 5. SUPERVISION OF THE COOPERATION

5.1. NORDEFCO Military Coordination Committee (MCC) will have the monitoring and supervision responsibility of this MoU.

5.2. This MoU will be reviewed when deemed necessary by the Participants collectively or when requested by one of the Participants.

Section 6. FINANCIAL

6.1. Unless otherwise decided, each Participant will cover its own expenses derived from activities and projects conducted under the auspices of this MoU.

6.2. Costs derived from utilization of assets under this MoU will be covered as described in Section 4 in this MoU.

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Section 7. CLAIMS, LIABILITIES AND DISPUTES

- 7.1. Claims arising out of or in connection with the execution of this MoU between the Participants will dealt with in accordance with the provisions of article VIII of the Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the Status of their Forces of 19 June 1951 (NATO SOFA).
- 7.2. Claims not covered by Article VIII of the NATO SOFA are dealt with by the Participants involved, and are settled on a case by case basis in accordance with applicable rules and regulations
- 7.3. Any dispute regarding the interpretation or application of this MoU will be resolved through negotiations between the Participants at the lowest level possible, and will not be referred to any national or international tribunal or other third person for settlement.

Section 8. COOPERATION WITH OTHERS THAN THE PARTICIPANTS

- 8.1. Activities or projects with other parties than the Participants to this MoU will be based upon a pragmatic approach, as a result of a defined needs assessment. The NORDEFECO Policy Steering Committee (PSC) has the authority to approve cooperation with others than the Participants. The provisions under which such cooperation may be performed will be formulated by the partakers to a specific activity or project.

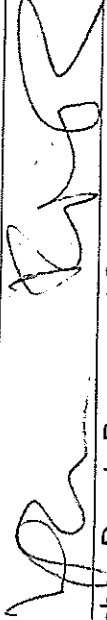
Section 9. ACCESSION TO THIS MOU

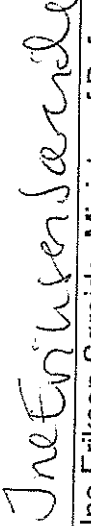
- 9.1. Accession to this MoU is possible by addressing the NORDEFECO Chair Nation. The NORDEFECO Policy Steering Committee (PSC) has the authority to approve additional participants and to define the arrangements under which new Participants join this MoU.
- 9.2. The addition of new Participants will require an amendment to this MoU.


Section 10. FINAL PROVISIONS

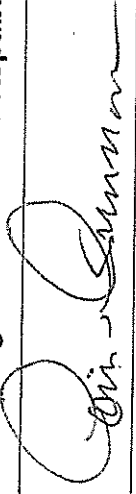
- 10.1. This MoU and any Technical Arrangement implementing this MoU are not intended to constitute treaties under Article 2 of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties.
- 10.2. This MoU will become effective upon the date of the last signature.
- 10.3. This MoU can be amended by unanimous decision of the Participants. Amendments will become effective upon the date of the last signature.
- 10.4. Any participant may withdraw from this MoU by giving a twelve-month's written notice to the other Participants. All outstanding issues will be settled before the termination enters into force.
- 10.5. Participants may terminate this MoU by unanimous written decision.


Signed in the English language in five originals at Helsinki on 4th December 2013.

The Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of Denmark

Kristian Fischer, Deputy Permanent Secretary of State for Defence

The Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of Norway

Ine Eriksen Søreide, Minister of Defence

The Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Finland

Carl Haglund, Minister of Defence

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iceland

Einar Gunnarsson, Permanent Secretary of State at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs

The Government of the Kingdom of Sweden

Karin Enström, Minister for Defence