

Implementation Group

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**Meeting of the Implementation Group for the
European initiative for the exchange of young officers
(inspired by Erasmus)
on 12 June 2012, 15:00 hrs
(Albert Borschette Conference Centre,
Rue Froissart 36 - 1040 Brussels)**

Draft Minutes

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted unanimously.

2. Meeting of the LoD chairpersons

The Chair of the Implementation Group reported on the meeting of the chairpersons of the different LoDs, organised the same day, with view to better coordinate efforts between the subgroups and identify the priorities to be addressed with the Group. The stress was put on module organisation as to propose to share them.

Next EMACS meeting will take place in October in Lisbon

The Chair reported on the recent conferences of single service academies (SIC, EUAFA) (presentation to be circulated) on the briefings he gave on the Initiative to the Conference of Superintendants (Navy) and EUAFA (Air Force) meetings in May and June 2012. He gave news on the current state of affairs, the number of exchanges, the LoDs. Stressed the « measures at national level » (Bologna, EU languages, etc.) and the conclusions of the 2011 progress report. He recommended the single services conferences to appoint « liaison » persons with the IG in order to foster continuity.

The Chairman invited the IG to think about the potentialities of a LoD on « language training ».

On the review of LoDs, the following was reported:

- *LoD1 : stress on the document support for the recognition (using a certificate of completion in ECTS or WH)*
- *LoD2 : first analysis, to be refined in summer and then discussing the methodology with the Commission. The Group and the experts will then work on a draft (for December).*
- *Launch of the IT platform : discussion about the relevance of the launch of the IT platform. EDA and ESDC are currently discussing the potential IT support of EDA.*
- *LoD6 : information on Newsletter and Wikipedia page. There should be a wider mailing list, and a better spread within the MoDs and academies. The EUAFA will change its website address.*
- *LoD7 : nothing to report. Suggestion that the LOD7 shall investigate the potentialities of Erasmus « intensive programme » and draft a sort of guide « how to use these programmes ? ».*
- *LoD8 : development of new modules with new topics shall be slowed down and the module conversion of existing programmes shall be favoured.*

3. Common modules

The Group received further information on the Common Module CSDP Olympiad and on the contributions received, the timelines, the registered participants and the rules of the game (presentation is circulated to the IG members). The Group received a presentation information about the organisation of the next Implementation Group's meeting, which will be organised at the margin of the CSDP Olympiad.

Teams of participants are selected in eight groups. The proposed evaluation team, which consisting of Dirk Dubois, Sven Biscop, Sylvain Paile, Pavlina Gorenc, Jochen Rerhl, Hans-Bernhard Weisserth and a member of the CY MoD was approved.

The Chairman of the LoD8 informed the Group about the information received for the update of the lecturers' database.

The ESDC Secretariat made a remark to consider whether the Olympiad will be annual and sustained. To bring to consideration from a financial point of view, or to be organised by the EU presidencies.

Mr Paile reminded the Group about the ongoing L4 evaluation (deadline 29th June).

4. LoD2 – state of progress

The Chairman of the LoD2 informed the Group about the state of progress of the efforts toward establishing a common qualification framework for the military officers basic education.

The group had a first discussion on the opportunity to launch the LoD4 (create an IT platform) and on its feasibility, taking into account the existing information (stocktaking report 2010, compendium, first outputs from LoD2, etc.)

LoD2 chairman provided a briefing on the state of affairs of the LoD2. A first analysis of the contributions sent by the MS has been made under the form of a list of « common denominators » and will be refined during the summer before meeting experts from the Commission and working on a draft of the qualification framework together with the working groups.

5. Exchange Opportunities - Newsletter

The Group endorsed the edition 5 of the CSDP Newsletter, prepared by Mr Paile.

Mr Paile gave an information on the Newsletter 5, distributed to the IG and stressed the need to wider circulation within the MoDs and academies and the need to provide the information to the editor in order to publish them.

6. Ways to promote the Initiative

The Group was invited to discuss the possible ways to promote the Initiative in the context of a rapidly evolving CSDP environment on the basis of a presentation of the ESDC Secretariat.

The Chair reported on his intervention in the EUMC meeting.

The ESDC Secretariat gave a briefing on the prospects of support of the Initiative by the Secretariat with the lack of its resources. The IG was informed that Mr Paile would stop his support to the Initiative if no sustainable solution may be found as regards his situation and called for the Member States and their education institutions to investigate possible solutions before next IG.

The ESDC Secretariat recalled the state of situation as regards the organisation of the ESDC as a whole and the future of its Secretariat.

7. Workplan development

Based on a presentation by the Austrian delegation, the Group was invited to discuss ways to address the differences existing between national military decision-making procedures (at tactical/small units level) and their impact on the participation to exchange activities.

The Group had a discussion and updated the workplan for the coming academic year.

Austria provided a presentation (to be circulated) on the question of a way to Common European Military Decision-Making Process in order to prepare the future officers to their work in a multinational context (mainly for Army officers). They proposed to develop a Common EU (tactical) MDMP and implement it and educate at basic education level and potentially to propose it as a common module, as a substitute or a complement to national MDMP.

Austria proposed to the IG members to think about it (need and will) for the next IG meeting. This shall be done only after a careful state-of-the art.

The ESDC Secretariat presented an updated workplan. December meeting's date is not confirmed yet. The excel file will integrate the calendar proposed by the LoD2, the foreseen launch of the LoD4 in autumn. The revised document will be sent.

8. AOB

Austria distributed a paper with the mobility events organised by the Military Academy on the organisation of the Symposium on the Common European Security and Defence Culture. Austria thanked France for the organised Maritime Leadership module in which they participated. It was stressed that for the smooth planning of future mobility events, exact dates and language requirements should to be acknowledged and sent in advance.

The next IG will be 5th October (instead of 4th).