

Implementation Group

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**Meeting of the Chairpersons for the Lines of Development
for the European initiative for the exchange of young officers
(inspired by Erasmus)
Brussels, 26 January 2010**

Draft Report

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted unanimously.

2. State of play of the Initiative

- The Chair of the IG looked back on the work of the IG so far. He underlined that all concerned need to make sure that they understand each other at different levels. In view of the number of people involved in the work, each with his or her own excellent ideas, he the Chairperson stressed the necessity to coordinate between the different LoDs. The main effort for the coming months will be on the approval of the legal framework as a cornerstone for the exchanges. Other important aspects are the need to recognise training done abroad, in the light of which the development of an MECTS system is key, the development of different common modules and the development and implementation of a communication strategy on the Initiative.
- The ESDC Secretariat reminded the tasks that were given to the implementation group by the Council and continued with an overview of the state-of-play of the different quick-wins and Lines of Development that were not represented.

3. Objectives of the Lines of Development

The result of the work so far on the quick-wins and lines of development were then presented

- Quick-win 5: curricula for common modules on PSO, Humanitarian Law and on Communication are developed. The Chairperson will contact the GE and IT contact persons for the curricula on Leadership and on NATO. For the future, Quick-win 5 will be transformed to a Line of Development. We intend to ask Member States to offer additional subjects either based on already existing national courses or on new subjects. Topics could cover both joint, strategic aspects or single-service aspects. In

the latter case duplication with the work of the existing single-service initiatives should be avoided.

- Line of Development 1 is derived directly from one of the tasks given to the Implementation Group. The Chair of the LoD, supported by Mr Paile, confirmed that for the time being, the transfer of credits accumulated in the ECTS or in the ECVET systems are not possible. The simpler to use MECTS system could be implemented immediately. There was some discussion on the necessity to accredit students individually for having followed a course in a different language than their native tongue, since this would give different credits for different students in a single course.
- Work on LoD 2 will start. The Chairperson proposes to ask for a small group of volunteering MS to try to develop course curricula that describe the courses on the European Qualification Framework. This might imply developing a very specific vocabulary and taxonomy for the military profession, probably even per single service. The courses chosen should preferably include the common modules that were developed under Quick-wins 1 and 5.
- The purpose of Line of Development 7 is to make best use of the resources that were attributed to the military institutes in some Member States. The Chair of this LoD has sent out a questionnaire, requesting an expression of interest in collaboration on the LoD. If sufficient interest is shown, the Czech Republic will organise a working group meeting in April. The Secretariat added to this that the Line of Development should also explore other best practises in linking up military training institutes to the Commission's Life-long Learning Programme.

4. Work Plan

The participants checked the proposed work plan for 2010 against the given tasks in the Council Recommendations. As a conclusion, we can say that the sum of the work plan's intended activities cover all the tasks given by the Council to the Implementation Group. However, work on some of the Lines of Development has not yet started. This is the case for the LoD 4 and 6. LTC Tripnaux proposes to send a framework communication strategy to the Secretariat, that can then be further developed. He will contribute to the work on the communication plan for as long as he continues in his current position, but regrets not being able to chair as he will likely change positions later in the year.

The Secretariat proposes that all the Quick-wins will be terminated, as they have completed their objectives. Quick-win 5 will be transformed to Line of Development 8. After the Implementation Group endorses the work plan, the Secretariat will reissue a call for contribution to the Member States.

5. AOB
