



ANNUAL REPORT

2014

Editors:
Trond Heimvik, Ellef Iversen,
Norwegian Ministry of Defence

Design & illustrations:
Norwegian Armed Forces Media Centre,
Steinar Farstad Linckert (FMS-1131)

Photo:
Danish Armed Forces
Norwegian Armed Forces Media Centre
Swedish Armed Forces



Print & circulation:
750 printed, 250g Silk and 130g Silk paper
The Swan is the official Nordic ecolabel

Published by the Norwegian chairmanship of NORDEFCO

February 2015



CONTENT

04	The Development of NORDEFCO
08	Main achievements in 2014
14	Progress reports in the military cooperation areas
40	Priorities for 2015

FOREWORD



Ine Eriksen Søreide
Ine Eriksen Søreide
Minister of Defence



2014 has been an eventful year for Nordic defence cooperation. Russia's annexation of the Crimea and its intervention in Eastern Ukraine has changed the European security landscape, with implications also in our own region and we have discussed how we can adopt our defence policies to this new situation. The Nordic nations have had to reconsider their security policies and their relationship with Russia.

At the same time, 2014 has been rewarding for our cooperation, as these events have underlined NORDEFCO's value. Working along the lines of the NORDEFCO vision, agreed on during Finland's 2013 chairmanship, our cooperation has evolved as a forum for contact and dialogue on security policy between our nations.

I see four factors why it is important to further develop Nordic security and defence cooperation: First, our geographical, political and value based proximity make cooperation natural. Second, security concerns in our region, mutual international interests and economical and structural similarities make cooperation relevant. Third, in a period of economic constraints in Europe and elsewhere, regional clusters of cooperation reinforce international institutions and improve stability. And finally, Finland and Sweden are among the most active and constructive partners to NATO and we all benefit from our cooperation in a transatlantic context. In sum, these important factors make Nordic cooperation necessary also in the future.

Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden assisted the UN and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in the escort and transportation of chemical weapons out of Syria. Finland, Norway and Sweden participate in EU and UN operations in Mali. Our nations will continue their cooperation in the NATO-led Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan in 2015. Further, we have agreed, with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, to establish a joint capacity building package that NATO, EU and the UN can use to help states achieve democratization and modernization of their defence sectors. Nordic support to the East Africa Standby Force and African Capacity Building will continue also in 2015.

This year we have also fulfilled important capability ambitions. Finland and Sweden took part in the exercise Cold Response, improving their interoperability with the alliance. The initiative taken by the Chiefs of Defence of Finland, Norway and Sweden on common training of their battalion task forces in cold response 2016 is very welcome. Such training and exercises will underpin the necessary efforts in increasing interoperability between our armed forces.

In February 2014, Finnish, Norwegian and Swedish fighter planes trained together on Iceland during Norway's deployment to NATO's peacetime preparedness mission. The Iceland Air Meet brought our cooperation on Cross Border Training one valuable step further. We concluded the year by agreeing to make the entire Nordic air space available for cross border training, including Iceland's. In 2014, we have also started to explore how to make best use of our combined training areas, test ranges and simulator facilities. Reflecting the rapidly changing challenges we face, Finland has taken the lead on Computer Emergency Response Teams, improving our defence against cyber-attacks.

The Nordic countries emphasize result oriented capability and armaments cooperation as well as a constructive cooperation with the defence industry. Joint maintenance and logistics support for the countries' tactical air transport air craft has developed in a positive way. We also see a promising potential for closer and more integrated cooperation on air surveillance capabilities.

A number of achievements are highlighted in this report and illustrate the dynamic nature of Nordic defence cooperation.

I will also take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to the achievements made in the Nordic defence cooperation during 2014.

 We concluded the year by agreeing to make the entire Nordic air space available for military training and exercises, including Iceland's.



DEVELOPMENT OF NORDEFCO



STATUS, RESTRUCTURING AND IMPROVEMENTS

Nordic defence cooperation is progressing. In 2014 important cooperative steps were taken to further develop cost-efficient and operationally relevant armed forces in the Nordic countries. Changes have been made in the management structure and key actors are directly involved in practical cooperation.

The Nordic Defence Cooperation (NORDEFCO) was established in 2009 and encompasses all five Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden). The cooperation include all bi- and multi-lateral activities related to security policy, operations, training and exercises, capability development and armaments in one single management structure on military and ministerial level. The prime objectives are improved cost-efficiency and increased operational effect. The cooperation is characterised by its flexible, pragmatic and result-oriented approach to defence cooperation. The chairmanship rotates on an annual basis between Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

The NORDEFCO structure was evaluated and re-organized in 2013. Adjustments and changes went into effect in 2014. Without changing the MOU regulating the cooperation the Ministers decided to include the National Armaments Directors (NADs) and the Capability Directors to the PSC.

This forum now meets in three sessions; policy/ operations, capabilities and armaments, allowing for

discussions and decisions between the key actors sharing the same responsibilities and roles nationally.

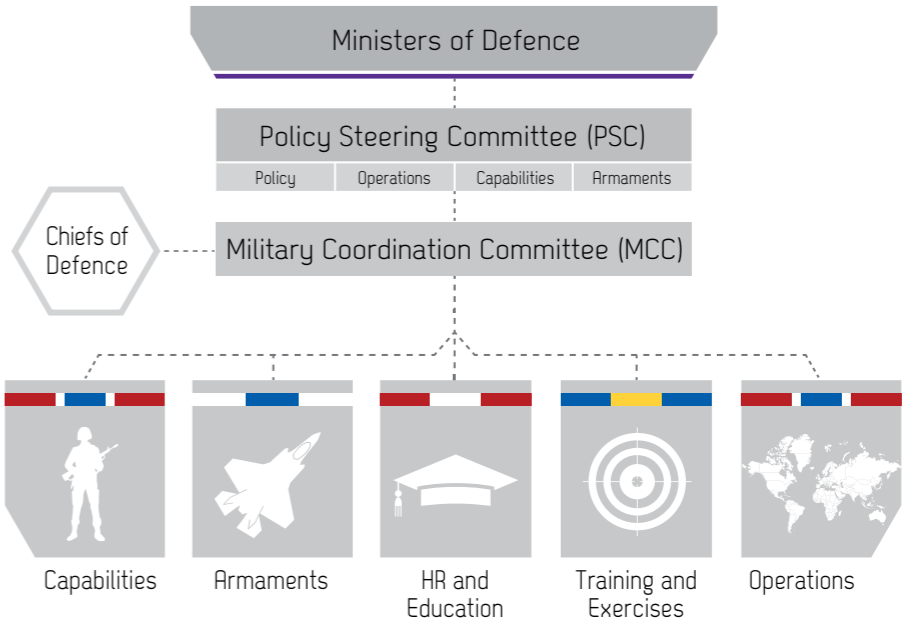
Moreover, the MCC has had a successful joint meeting with the Chiefs of Defence (CHODs) in spring 2014. Besides, joint efforts between the CHODs and the NADs give valuable push to the work on the military side. In this respect NORDEFCO has had a renewed focus on armaments cooperation, which is a promising, yet challenging, area to materialize. The cooperation area for armaments (COPA ARMA) was established at the beginning of 2014, and the countries actively try to develop the dialogue between the bodies to clarify expectations and to develop concrete armaments projects.

PRIORITIES

Norway held the chairmanship of NORDEFCO in 2014 and was succeeded by Sweden in 2015.

During 2014 the following objectives were emphasized:

The NORDEFCO structure



- Enhanced security policy dialogue. Further develop NORDEFCO as a forum for useful dialogue on developments and trends affecting the Nordic countries.
- Strengthen the Nordic ability to deliver relevant military contributions to international peace operations.
- Ensure further progress on training and exercises. Extend existing cooperation on training and facilitate better coordination between Nordic, Nordic-Baltic and NATO exercise programs.
- Result-oriented approach to capability and armaments cooperation, directing efforts and resources towards activities with the highest potential for results.
- Strengthen cooperation on capacity building and security sector reform in post-conflict countries and young democracies, aiming to offer such contributions to UN, NATO and EU.

- Develop the dialogue between NORDEFCO and Nordic defence industry in order to ensure timely deliveries of materiel to the armed forces and maintain a competitive defence industrial base.
- Revitalise cooperation on Public-Private Partnerships (PPP). Further develop a common Nordic approach to PPP through exchange of experience and best practice between the nations and identify possible common PPP activities, in dialogue with industry.

NORDEFCO has during 2014 further developed an active dialogue and cooperation with third parties like the Baltic countries on topics like armaments, exercises, veteran's issues, planning and security sector reform.



MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS
IN 2014

2

NORDEFCO PRODUCES TANGIBLE RESULTS

NORDEFCO produces tangible results through intensified security political dialogue, capacity building activities, training and exercises, capability development and armaments cooperation, as well as cooperation in military operations.

NORDEFCO AS A PLATFORM FOR SECURITY POLICY DIALOGUE

The crisis in Ukraine and the changing and challenging security situation in Europe have increased the scope and intensity of the dialogue between the Nordic countries. Russia’s increased military presence and activities, especially in the Baltic Sea region fosters the need for exchange of information regarding emergency planning and preparedness. This also underlines the importance of developing the Nordic Baltic defence cooperation and security policy dialogue. The follow-up of the NATO-summit in Wales has also been discussed in NORDEFCO with two of the most active partners of the Alliance, Finland and Sweden. The decisions adopted and initiatives taken in NATO are important for all Nordic countries, both members and partners.

OPERATIONS

The Nordic countries have provided relevant military contributions to international peace operations. Late 2013, Denmark, Finland, Sweden and Norway assisted the UN and OPCW to secure the safe transportation of chemical weapons out of Syria in the Danish led operation RECSYR. The Nordic countries are also involved in UNs peace-keeping

mission in Mali. Furthermore, the Nordic countries continue to support Afghanistan and the Resolute Support Mission.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity Building Initiative

In 2014 the Nordic defence ministers decided to establish a joint capability to conduct defence sector capacity-building. This capability will be offered to NATO, EU, UN and international coalitions as a plug-and-play component in their engagements. Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have joined the initiative and are prepared to contribute. This capability should be established during 2015.

The aim is to establish and deploy one or more advisory teams within 6 months’ notice. The teams will engage key actors in the receiving state’s defence sector using proven capacity-building methods and will be deployed for a longer period through rotation of teams. The teams should make maximum use of existing courses, seminars and curricula to build capacity.

Initial focus will be on planning and conducting operations, including participation in international peace operations; financial operation, with emphasis

on budgeting, accounting and anti-corruptions, and restructuring of armed forces. Gender, human rights and international law should be crosscutting themes in our assistance. Redundancy will be established between nations within the individual disciplines.

East African Standby Forces

Support to the East African Standby Forces (EASF) continues to be a prime example of the added value of Nordic cooperation. The Nordic countries have provided advisory and financial support to the EASF management, enabling the standby force to plan, organize and execute all relevant decision-making processes. The Nordic countries, through The Nordic Advisory and Coordination Staff, have been instrumental in the build-up of EASF. The EASF will be declared fully operational in 2015, and be an important instrument in the African Union’s ambitions to promote stability and security in Africa.

TRAINING AND EXERCISES

Iceland Air Meet

Iceland Air Meet 2014 (IAM 2014) brought together NATO members Norway, Iceland and the Netherlands, and partner countries Finland and Sweden. It was held during the training component of Norway’s deployment to Iceland, but was not a part of the periodic NATO Peacetime Preparedness Mission. This mission is conducted by NATO Allies only, and hence separate and distinct from IAM 2014.

Nevertheless, the air meet conducted a wide range of air defence-related flying activities, including air combat training between dissimilar aircraft types, defensive and offensive counter-air operations and high-value airborne asset attack and protection, supported by air-to-air refuelling tanker aircraft, NATO AWACS radar aircraft, Finnish and Icelandic Search and Rescue (SAR) helicopters. Iceland provided host nation support.

Nordic Participation in Exercise Cold Response 2014

Cold Response is a Norwegian-led winter exercise which was carried out in northern Norway during March. The main purpose of last year’s winter exercise was to rehearse high intensity operations in winter conditions. The exercise involved 16 NATO and partner countries. Sweden participated with some 1400 soldiers, making Cold Response the largest exercise for Sweden in 2014. Sweden had the responsibility to lead the multinational brigade consisting of units from Canada, the Netherlands, Norway and the UK, as well as from Sweden.

Furthermore, the Chiefs of Defence from Finland, Norway and Sweden signed an agreement in August stating the intention to jointly prepare for exercising of their battalion task forces for the next Cold Response exercises in 2016.

CAPABILITIES AND ARMAMENTS COOPERATION

Air surveillance

– Air Situational Data Exchange (ASDE)

NATO, Finland, Norway and Sweden are implementing an agreement on Air Situational Data Exchange (ASDE). This agreement allows for exchanging air situational data between NATO and partner countries. The ASDE cooperation is a small, yet important first step in developing a wider and deeper cooperation in the area of air surveillance.

Common Contracting

Norway signed in March 2014 and Sweden in May 2014 two framework agreements with Rheinmetall M.A.N. Military Vehicles, one concerning procurement of new trucks to the Armed Forces, and one for industrial cooperation on logistics and life cycle support for the material. The agreement will provide the countries with new, state of the art trucks with very good protection. The agreement will give Norway and Sweden great savings concerning investments and running costs. In November 2014 Finland decided to start negotiations to join the framework agreements. The development of procedures and methods that enable the Nordic countries to draw upon the benefits of common contracting is a focal point in COPA ARMA activities. Moreover, additional future effects can result from cooperation on common logistics, education and in the conduct of operations.

Denmark and Norway have concluded a life-cycle support contract with Marshall Aerospace on acquisition of inspections and maintenance for the countries' C-130 J aircraft. This agreement has already contributed to significant savings for the countries.

Base Camp Cooperation in UN Mission in Mali

Norway and Sweden recently agreed on Swedish lease of two complete base camp material sets in order to support the mission in Mali. This provides substantial cost savings for Sweden compared to the alternative of procuring the camp sets nationally. Training and education associated with the use of the material has been conducted under the agreement, as well as Norway facilitating needs and requests stemming from the Swedish mission through Norway's National Logistics Command. The agreement is vital in piloting the work COPA ARMA is carrying out regarding a Technical Agreement for a common Nordic Pool of Base Camp Material in international operations.

Counter-Improvised Explosive Devices (C-IED) and Joint Deployable Exploitation and Analysis Laboratory (JDEAL)

In September 2014, Norway and Sweden signed a project agreement with other European participants and the EDA, providing access to deployable laboratories for C-IED training and operations. The project aims at developing cooperation on procurement, training and procedures for the best possible countermeasures against improvised explosive devices. Denmark also participates in this project as a customer of training courses.

The Joint Deployable Exploitation and Analysis Laboratory (JDEAL) provides a permanent technical exploitation training capability in the Netherlands. The project aims at procuring two deployable laboratories for use in operations.

The first JDEAL training took place in November 2014 and marked the establishment of an initial operational capacity. JDEAL will reach full operational capacity by first quarter of 2015.


Engineering

The Nordic Chiefs of Defence signed in August 2014 an agreement in formalizing and developing the on-going engineering cooperation, including on education, courses, road construction and bridging capability.

Surplus Sale

A surplus sale of Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS), Stinger, TOW and 9mm took place between Denmark and Finland. The armaments items were identified within COPA ARMA and the execution was done by the line organisations and between the National Armaments Directors.




 Norway and Sweden recently agreed on Swedish lease of two complete base camp material sets in order to support the mission in Mali.

BORDERLESS COOPERATION

Work is continually on-going to improve practical defence cooperation. The PSC signed a Technical Arrangement (TA) on Visit Procedures in October 2014, simplifying routines by removing the need for Request for Visit (RFV) formula for visits involving unclassified and restricted information. Further steps will be taken to develop borderless cooperation.

NORDIC-BALTIC COOPERATION

There has been tangible progress in the Nordic-Baltic defence cooperation in 2014. All activities under the military cooperation areas (COPA's) are now in principal open for participation by Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. There is scope for enhancing cooperation in a number of areas, including secure communications, cyber defence, armaments, training and exercises and on capacity-building.



 PROGRESS REPORTS
FROM THE MILITARY
COOPERATION AREAS

3 COOPERATION AREA CAPABILITIES (COPA CAPA)

COPA CAPA addresses the Nordic countries' development plans and processes. Based on common needs, COPA CAPA identifies areas of mutual benefit with the intent of exploring the possibilities of reducing total costs and promoting operational effectiveness.

Main task is to identify, discuss and propose possible areas for capability cooperation. Research and Technology (R&T) is an integral part of the capability development process in COPA CAPA, adding a strategic dimension to the work. Some of the ongoing studies and activities are described below.

MARITIME MINE COUNTER MEASURE (MCM)

Both Norway and Sweden are currently assessing future naval MCM capability. Both countries have investigated the possibility to align their work in accordance with national plans and procurement processes. Ongoing work in NATO and the EDA indicates that future work will take place between the line organization and NATO and EDA. Both Norway and Sweden signed a project agreement with EDA in November 2014 in order to start work on future maritime mine counter measures capabilities. The bilateral working group in NORDEFCO has been closed. Further cooperation is being developed through NATO and the EDA.

AIR SURVEILLANCE – NORDIC ENHANCED COOPERATION ON AIR SURVEILLANCE (NORECAS)

Air surveillance has been defined as a very promising area for cooperation. The potential for harmonizing requirements for acquisition of new sensors as well as positioning the sensors for air surveillance is being explored. Future cooperation may also include exchange of radar data, cooperation and more integrated solution concerning air command and control systems and common procurement of active and passive sensors. A road map based on a stepwise implementation is currently being developed, along with an implementation plan for 2015.



ENGINEERING

Combat and force support engineering are capabilities closely connected to the successful outcome of most operations. Nordic cooperation in the fields of engineering capability has developed over many years. Practical cooperation between the countries' units has been implemented. The aim of this activity is to formalize and develop ongoing engineering cooperation, including education, training and development regarding road construction and bridging capability. Cooperation within engineering will continue to find solutions for better utilization of resources and to preserve and increase the competence and skills. A Letter of Intent (LOI) was signed by the Nordic Chiefs of Defence on August 22nd 2014, encouraging a stepwise development and cooperation on armaments and life cycle chain.

CYBER DEFENCE

Most countries are in the process of developing cyber defence capabilities. Nordic cooperation aims at:

- Sharing information and practices
- Identify military Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) activities in the participating countries and suggest a way ahead for enhancing information sharing.
- Identify needs and requirements for Nordic cyber defence exercises.

A Nordic cyber-experiment was successfully conducted in Finland in October 2014. Together with military CERTs the experiment focused on developing processes and practices, including identifying legal and unidentified obstacles. The lessons learned from this experiment will form the basis for future development of this type of cooperation, based on a step-by-step approach.

A Nordic cyber-experiment was successfully conducted in Finland in October 2014.

AIR TRANSPORT (NORTAT)

The Nordic Air Transport program, NORTAT, is generally progressing according to plan. On the operational side most of the milestones have been met. The countries consider concrete arrangements necessary to enable Nordic countries to act as one customer when leasing civilian aircraft.

A common booking system for better planning is being explored. Furthermore, the countries are looking for better utilization of air traffic command systems.

In the logistics domain work is progressing. Denmark and Norway have agreed on joint acquisition of maintenance and inspections with Marshall Aerospace, which has proven to be a success and has contributed to significant savings.





NORDIC FACILITIES FOR TRAINING AND EXERCISES (NORFATEX)

The aim of the NORFATEX activity is to investigate the scope of connecting training facilities, including air, land and sea territory for all services and other countries. The Nordic region offers some of the best training opportunities in Europe. Activities are linked to the Connected Forces initiative (NATO) and studies like test and evaluation ranges and simulators and trainers. The work undertaken is based on national studies. The program will be divided into several work packages making existing facilities visible, identification of challenges and how to coordinate with additional COPA TEX initiatives.

TEST AND EVALUATION RANGES

The aim of the activity Nordic Test and Evaluation Ranges has been to identify facilities that can be of interest for other Nordic countries. Andøya rocket launch station in Norway and Vidsel firing range in Sweden are areas of special interest. These sites have the potential to fulfil future needs regarding test of long range missile systems. The framework and procedures for using the areas has been developed.



SIMULATORS AND TRAINERS

COPA CAPA conducts three separate, yet interlinked activities on simulators and trainers. All countries use a broad spectrum of simulators and trainers for better utilization of education, training and exercises. Simulators and trainers enable more efficient observation, evaluation and documentation of training activities and synergies by means of cooperation and coordination are evident.

Computer Training Network (CTN) is a Norwegian led activity aiming at linking simulators and trainers into a computer training network. The work is:

- Taking stock of requirements and obstacles for being integrated into a CTN
- Mapping infrastructure relevant for the countries
- Finding solutions on how to exchange classified information within a CTN.

The work will also be coordinated with those agencies/forums in NATO and PfP. An active NORDEFECO contribution might be offered to NATO/EDA.



Small Arms Indoor Training Simulators (SAITS)

is a Finnish led program which aims at defining common requirements for SAITS. Areas of interests are the replacement of outdated fire arms simulators, and how to purchase simulators for repetitive training up to patrol level (3 soldiers simultaneously) in order to develop the concept of individual training and save costs.

Virtual Battle Space (VBS) is also a Finnish led activity aiming at identifying cost savings or increased knowledge of battle technical and tactical level effect through a joint use or acquisition of virtual battle space simulators.

GROUND-BASED AIR DEFENCE (GBAD)

Ground Based Air Defence is an activity based on national work ongoing in Norway to define the future needs for surface based air defence systems. Both Finland and Sweden have shown interest in following the development of the Norwegian study. There is no joint Nordic study ongoing in this field. The purpose is to keep each other updated on relevant national processes in order to find elements of mutual interest. The study is in its first, out of three, phases, analysing the future needs for a Surface based Air Defence (SBAD) system.



COOPERATION AREA ARMAMENTS (COPA ARMA)



COOPERATION AREA ARMAMENTS (COPA ARMA)

COPA ARMA was established during 2014 as a tool to highlight armaments cooperation as a key ingredient in the development of capabilities. COPA ARMA has contributed to a number of successes during 2014, including the agreement between Norway and Sweden on the lease of base camp equipment and the sale of surplus multiple rocket systems from Denmark to Finland.

The MCC decided in September 2013 to establish a separate cooperation area for Armaments (COPA ARMA) in order to continue and further develop the cooperation in the framework of Acquisition and Life Cycle Support (ALCS). COPA ARMA is to explore the possibility of achieving financial, technical and/or industrial benefits for all the member countries within the field of acquisition and life cycle support. This is to be achieved through transparent and mutual exchange of information on planned national procurement in order to identify and exploit possibilities for common development programs, procurement and maintenance of existing and emerging capabilities. The establishment of COPA ARMA, along with the emphasis on armaments from both the National Armaments Directors (NADs) and the Chiefs of Defence (CHODs), has given the best possible starting point for concretizing opportunities in the field of armaments.

COPA ARMA is mandated to initiate, administrate and close working groups in any area that is deemed beneficial for Nordic armaments cooperation.

Currently 14 working groups are operating with experts from all Nordic countries' line organizations, such as Defence Headquarters, Logistics organizations, Defence Ministries, Services, etc.

Working Groups established in 2014:

- Working Group Geospatial Systems
- Working Group Diving Systems
- Working Group Camp Management

Working Groups completed in 2014:

- Working Group Long Range Precision Engagement

Working Groups closed in 2014:

- Working Group Nordic Future Soldier System (NORFUS)
- Working Group Naval Mine Countermeasures III
- Working Group Surplus Stock
- Working Group Target Material Mine Countermeasures



In addition to the armaments related results mentioned in Chapter 2, also the following activities produced added value to the participating countries.

INDUSTRY COOPERATION

Working together with industry is of utmost importance in order to ensure a timely and mutual beneficial information updating procedure. The industry is dependent on reaching a sufficient level of situational awareness in order to adjust and deliver the required systems and units in a timely manner. In order to achieve the right level of understanding, national armaments representatives keep regular contact with national industry associations. Some of the ongoing studies and projects in COPA ARMA are described below:

SMALL ARMS

The scope of the Small Arms program is to investigate the possibilities for common procurement of a variety of hand-held small arms in addition

to different types of relevant ammunition and accessories. With regard to ammunition there seems to be a potential for enhanced cooperation. The program also looks further into cooperation on common procurement of 12.7 mm. and 84 mm. weapons and ammunition.

SOLDIER PROTECTION, EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING

The activity on Soldier Protection, Equipment and Clothing is focusing on harmonization of requirements and acquisition time lines as well as opportunities for common procurement. A promising and practical area of cooperation is the common approach for acquiring a Nordic combat dress. A suitable technical solution has been identified, while there is a need for adjustments regarding national user requirements. Moreover, substantial coordination has been done in identifying and facilitating common procurement of "Items off the Shelf", such as hand- and footwear, protective eye- and headwear and underclothing.



GEOSPATIAL (GEO) ACTIVITIES

The aim of this program is to coordinate Nordic Geospatial Activities, identify common training and acquisition opportunities and to search for the possibility of common production of topographic data through Multinational Geospatial Coproduction Program (MGCP). The goal is to ensure that production and sharing of data are coordinated and managed in the best way possible.

LONG RANGE AIR SURVEILLANCE SENSORS

Working Group Long Range Air Surveillance Sensors (LRASS) is focusing on possibilities for harmonization of requirements with a view to a possible common procurement of long range air surveillance sensors. Acquisition possibilities are being explored in order to better utilize future resources within the area of air surveillance. Initial work indicated that there are possibilities for decreasing life cycle costs through cooperation.

Both Norway and Sweden are conducting conceptual studies on renewal of air surveillance sensors. The working group is now identifying the Nordic countries' procurements plans, processes, legal aspects, regulations, possible show stoppers, special needs for national adaptation to enable common procurements and alternative ways of acquisition possibilities. Also Iceland has shown initial interest in the activities performed by LRASS.

LONG RANGE PRECISION ENGAGEMENT (LRPE)

The working group was mandated to investigate the possibilities for harmonization of technical and operational requirements with a view to a possible common procurement of capability Long Range Precision Engagement. Finland and Sweden have written a common Request for Information (RFI) for LRPE. The evaluation of the answers is ongoing. Other aspects of the work are taken to the Finnish/Swedish bilateral activity.

Both Norway and Sweden are conducting conceptual studies on renewal of air surveillance sensors.



SALES OF ARTILLERY SYSTEM

The possibilities of selling surplus equipment, including Multiple Launcher Rocket System (MLRS), Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPADS) Stinger, Anti-Armour System TOW and 9mm Ammunition, between Denmark and Finland were identified by COPA ARMA. The execution was done by the line organization and between NADs.

CAMOUFLAGE NETS

Camouflage Nets is a cooperation that was identified through COPA ARMA screening process. The use of NORDIC OPTION CLAUSE was initiated by COPA ARMA. A Finnish contract has been made useable for Denmark (acquisition on-going).

NORTAT LIFE CYCLE SUPPORT CONTRACT

The framework agreement between Denmark and Norway on maintenance and inspections on C-130 transport aircraft provides a saving of up to 7% in services due to larger service volumes.



UNITIZED GROUP RATIONS

The WG has identified bottled water as a common procurement possibility, and work has been done to utilize NATO Support Agency (NSPA).

PRECISION GUIDED MUNITION

Finland and Sweden coordinated their recent acquisitions in the field of Smart Ammunition thus enabling the timing and optimization of the production of the articles. This facilitated a substantial 30 % saving in production costs for the Finnish lot.

POWER UNITS TO LASER/OPTIC DEVICES

The life cycle support by the manufacturer for a Danish naval EO system ended and thus potentially causing the end of life for the systems. Finland provided the prerequisites for self-sustained life cycle support and therefore enabled Denmark continue the in service time for the system.



COOPERATION AREA
HUMAN RESOURCES
AND EDUCATION
(COPA HRE)

COOPERATION AREA HUMAN RESOURCES AND EDUCATION (COPA HRE)

There is a good potential to coordinate and to exploit synergies between the Nordic countries' HR resources and education systems. A number of opportunities have been explored.

COPA HRE attempts to achieve an enhanced cooperation on military education within the Nordic countries, and facilitate the exchange of experiences between Nordic countries on policies and procedures in Human Resources & Education. The timeframe for the work is 1-10 years.

VETERANS ISSUES

The aim of this activity is to share experiences, conduct research and create development in the area, thereby promoting common Nordic and Baltic actions for the recognition of veterans.

The second NORDEFECO Veteran Conference was held in Copenhagen in April 2014 and considered a success. The third NORDEFECO Veteran Conference is planned to take place in Sweden in 2016. The aim of these conferences is to learn how the nations deal with veteran issues in order to achieve either NORDEFECO-cooperation or enhance the veteran-efforts in each nation. The results can be found

on policies, national perspective on veteran-issues and different practical lessons learned between the participating nations.

PERSONNEL SAFETY

The aim of the work is to find commonly acceptable methods and tools to make different defence forces safety management systems interoperable and enhance the sharing of safety information. The study group identifies on possibilities to harmonise safety procedures to enhance the safety of personnel. The work covers both Military In-service (military work) and Occupational (civilian work) Safety (MIOS) as a whole.

The study group is looking at submitting its Draft Final Report in the beginning of 2015. The conclusions will include the proposals for a technical agreement under the NORDEFECO MOU on safety information sharing as well as the staffing of a Nordic military safety "policy".



ADVANCED DISTRIBUTED LEARNING (ADL)

Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL) is a widespread method for achieving flexibility and gaining effect (i.e. learning and economical) in education and training. The aim is to explore possible cost-reductions and quality gains, enable synergies and increase competence through Nordic cooperation. The Forum considers the potential for developing joint Nordic courses, based on ADL, as high. It depends on level of willingness of sharing information. The aim for 2014 has been to facilitate decisions within each nation in order to share information and to develop national information systems to enable ADL.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION AIR FORCE

The aim is to increase learning by increasing the training quality for optimizing the maintenance productivity in a safe way. The aims are common exchange of curricula, teaching methods and didactical knowledge. The objectives are exchange of teachers and students as applicable and exchange of didactical experience.

The Working Group initiated a tender round on 1. September 2014. The tender round was initiated at 1. September 2014 focusing on future courses for C-130J. Denmark and Norway are participating in the work. The first courses will be initiated in the second quarter of 2015. Exchange of instructors between Norway and Sweden in regards to Basic Avionics will be conducted from first quarter of 2015. Finland is recommended to look into the possibilities for participation in the Basic Avionics courses. The first course is to be conducted in the second quarter 2015.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION - ARMY

The aim of the work is to identify possible common technical courses on CV 90 and Leopard II maintenance. A Technical Arrangement between Norway and Sweden has been developed and signed in 2014. The project is considered an implemented activity. The output of this activity is reduced cost.

MINE COUNTER MEASURES (MCM) NAVY

The purpose of this study is to foster for co-operation with regards to MCM education for all personell groups. Sweden established an MCM Task Unit-staff (TU-staff) on board HMS Trossö during exercise Open Spirit 2014 and included a Nordic TU-staff with staff officers from Finland, Norway and Sweden. Furthermore, all Nordic nations have agreed upon a joint Nordic Combined Task Group during Decision Making Exercise 15. During 2014, the program has been developed even further. Especially the cooperation between Norway and Sweden is on track.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE ISSUES

The Foreign Language Issues program has three main purposes. To explore the field of English for specific purposes, training in other languages than English and sharing of information and experiences. The work has been coordinated with other work on the same subject and the ambition is that the work will be an implemented activity in 2015.

LOGISTICS EDUCATION – ARMY

The aim is to identify and establish logistical courses. Decision to incorporate the courses in the NORDEFECO course calendar is yet to be made. The aim for 2015 is to facilitate some practical common courses in order to save costs, which is also mentioned as part of the “bottom-up-study”. The work has been coordinated with other work on the same subject and the ambition is that the work will be an implemented activity in 2015.

DIVERSITY

The aim is to concentrate on generic knowledge sharing of national policy, strategy and initiatives



towards equality and diversity. The purpose of sharing practical knowledge is to help validate the development of this area within a national context. The aim for 2015 is to identify a few strategic subjects for the working group to continuously focus on. In that way common inspirations or initiatives might be possible.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

At present, Information Management only holds status as a pre-study. Norway will subsequently initiate an analysis which conclusions determine whether Information Management should be turned into a COPA HRE project or not.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES MEDICAL EDUCATION

The aim of the work is to benefit from each country’s competences regarding medic education for Special

Operations Forces. All students have passed the first test course. A back brief reveals that the course has been better and less expensive than similar courses offered in the US. Besides this, the course has been used as inspiration for similar work in France, Belgium and Italy. The second test course was initiated in autumn 2014. The course is based on the same principles, but is revised in order to minimize travel. The aim for 2015 is to hand this activity to the line-organisation in each nation.

PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION (PME)

The overall aim of the study is to exploit the possibilities on how to develop the Nordic exchange program on officer education based on eight principles stated in the PME report.

COPA HRE assess that the eight principles from the Bologna Process can be used as an inspiration to shape and develop the future supply of relevant courses within the participating nations. The work will continue with identified courses of actions inspired by the “Open Demand” and “Bounded Demand” models as described in the Invading Bologna report. The activity intends to focus on exploring opportunities and challenges by establishing an exchange system of e.g. relevant parts or modules of Command and Staff across the PME structures. Pending the viability of such a system further studies of elements from other models, most likely “Standardization” and/or “Open Supply and Demand” will be undertaken. COPA HRE assess that a different level of academic ambition across the participating nations will not pose a hindrance.

The aim for 2015 is to focus more on practical suggestions on how to take this activity to the next phase of activity.

CENTRES OF COMPETENCE (COC)

The objective of this program is to identify existing Centres of Competence (CoC) in all four Nordic countries and to investigate possible overlap in work and competence. The idea is to divide competence centres between the nations, saving infrastructure, personnel and still having access to special skills and competence at an even higher level and in a more cost effective way. This also might be a way to maintain a critical mass of personnel and retain quality.

COPA HRE assess that a pragmatic and an open approach will be fruitful in order to present viable solutions, which will add value to the present supply and demand. The mapping of CoC in the Nordic countries should provide thoughts on how to find cost benefits and strengthens quality.

The aim for 2015 is to focus more on practical suggestions on how to take this activity to the next phase of activity.

BOTTOM-UP PROCESS

The overall aim is to identify new areas for educational cooperation. So far more than 30 possible new areas for cooperation have been identified. Denmark is lead nation. COPA HRE will move on with 16 initiatives.

The intent is to prioritise up to 10 new common courses or cooperating activities. The courses should take place in 2015.



COOPERATION AREA TRAINING AND EXERCISES (COPA TEX)



COOPERATION AREA TRAINING AND EXERCISES (COPA TEX)

The Nordic region offers excellent opportunities for both single services and joint combined training and exercises. Cross Border Training between fighter aircraft from Finland, Norway and Sweden is proof of the operational and cost benefits involved.

COPA TEX coordinates and harmonizes military training activities among the NORDEFCO countries and facilitates a combined and joint exercise plan for a continuation of five years.

COPA TEX' main objective is to facilitate the continuation as well as further development of the training and exercising between the Nordic countries. Large scale exercises and some very specialized unit training often prove difficult for the single nations to afford or to be able to arrange. The main priority of COPA TEX is the Combined Joint Nordic Baltic Exercise Plan (CJNBEP), which is a five-year exercise plan, put together by the Nordic countries.

DOG SERVICE

The aiming is to identify cost-effectiveness and quality by way of Nordic cooperation in the area of dog service.

ARCTIC WINTER TRAINING

The aim is to proceed and develop the Arctic Winter training cooperation between the Nordic countries.

CROSS-BORDER TRAINING LAND, SEA AND AIR

The activity Cross-Border Training Land, Sea and Air aims at presenting possibilities to extend and widen the current cross-border training. With necessary coordination and documentation in place fighter aircraft can operate in a vast area without deploying supporting forces makes this weekly activity very cost efficient.

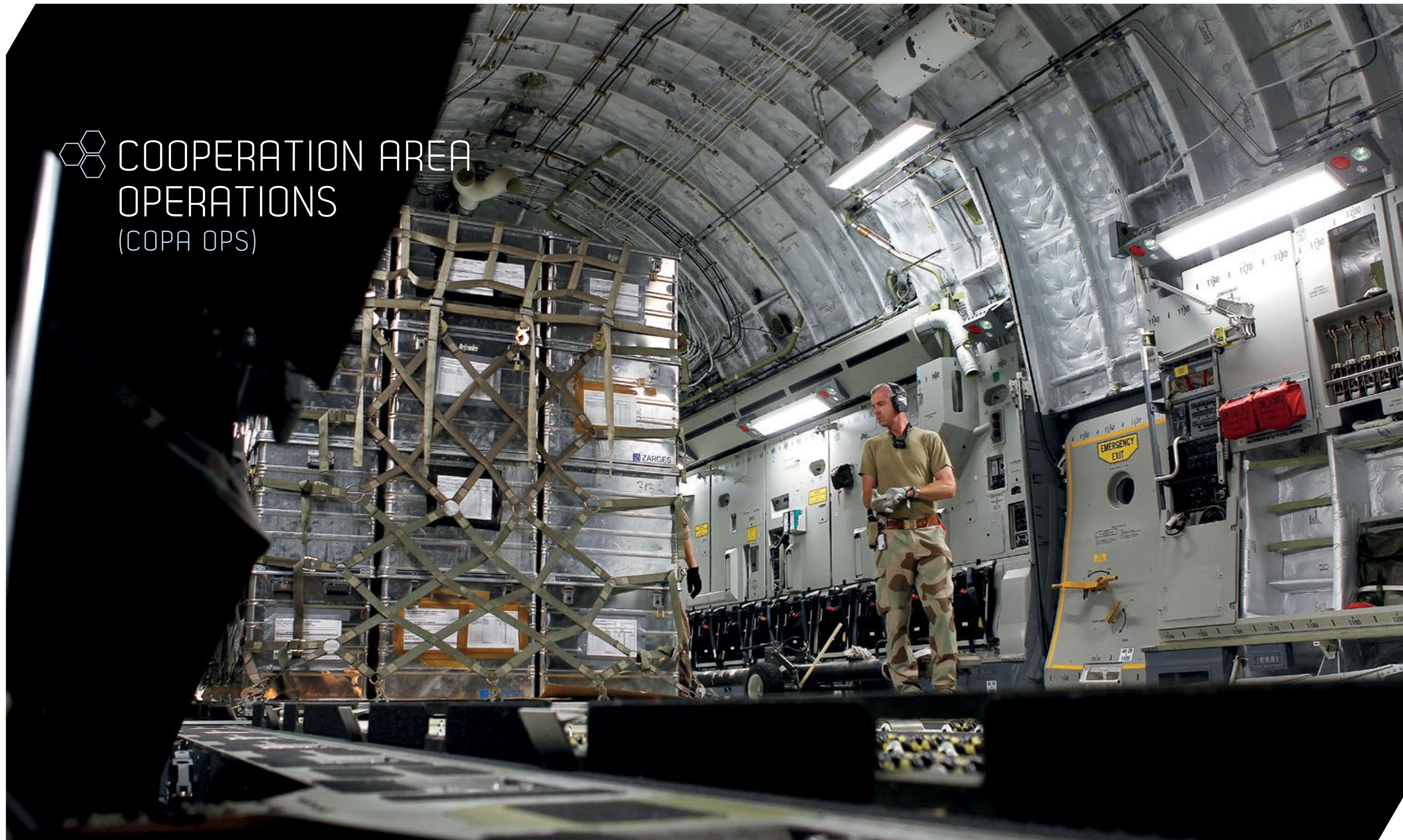
CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR (CBRN)

The aim of this program is to identify and explore how and if a Nordic Centre for CBRN could be a means in achieving enhanced cost-effectiveness and quality, thereby creating enhanced operational capacity.





COOPERATION AREA OPERATIONS (COPA OPS)



COOPERATION AREA OPERATIONS (COPA OPS)

The Nordic countries have developed a well-functioning cooperation in operations abroad, including ISAF. During 2014, Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden contributed military capacities to the UN mission on transportation of chemical weapons out of Syria, and a significant Nordic contribution has been offered to the UN led operation in Mali.

COPA OPS is prepared to plan, coordinate and clarify force contribution, deployment/redeployment and logistics support to operations. In contrast to other COPAs, COPA OPS is event driven. In order to achieve its tasks, COPA OPS will continue to maintain the Nordic network of operational planners, keep a tight dialogue and monitor the global situation. COPA OPS is able to carry out prudent military planning, however, it requires political acceptance in every single case. Therefore, COPA OPS will, through the respective countries' military line organizations, initiate required activities. These include planning, coordination and preparation of force contributions, subsequent deployments and redeployments, and logistic support to operations.

SECURE COMMUNICATION

The Nordic countries are in need of systems for secure distribution of classified information. There is work ongoing to establish technical solutions to accommodate this need.

ESTABLISHMENT OF BASE CAMP IN UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN MALI (MINUSMA)

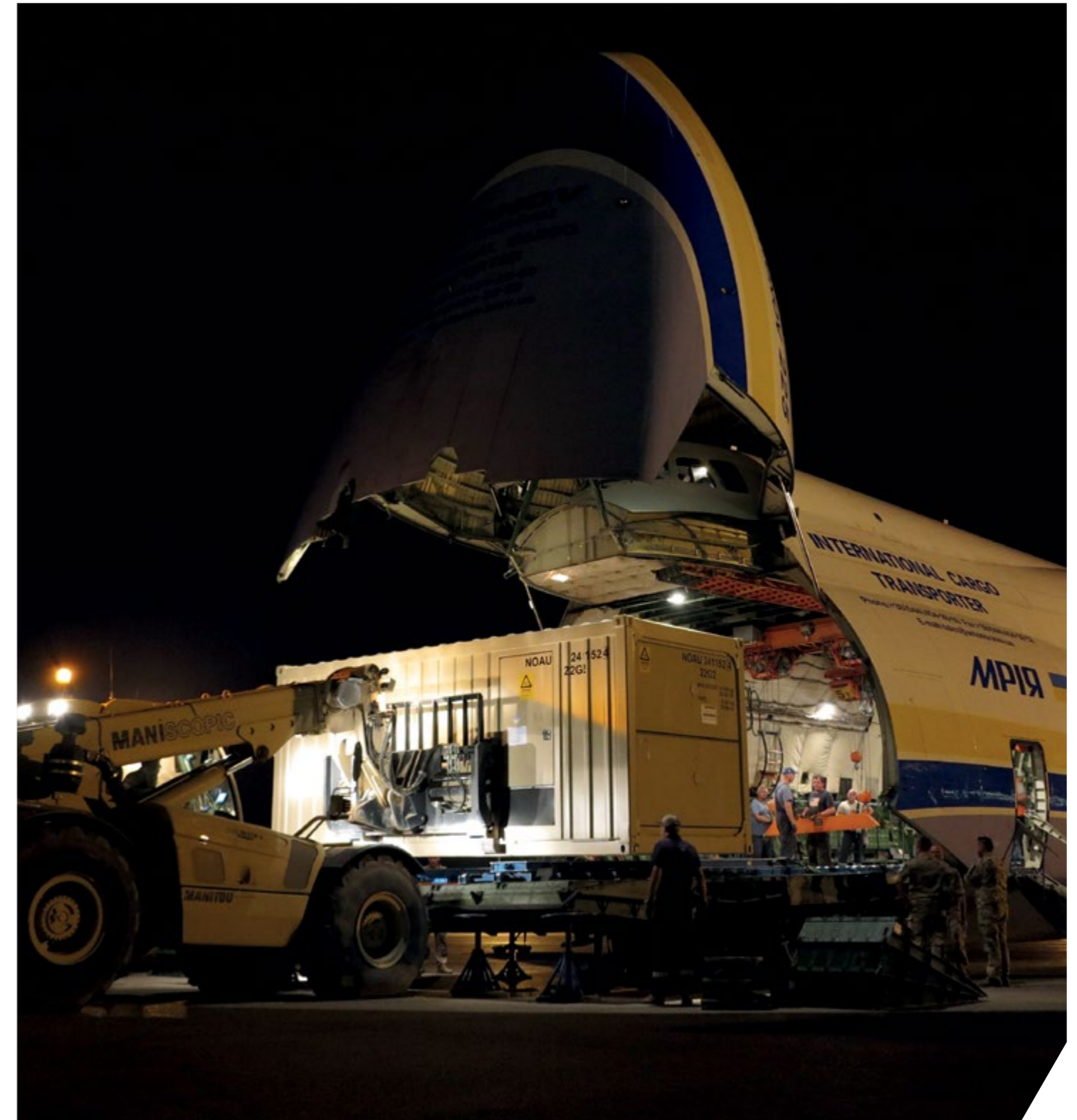
Norwegian Armed Forces assisted Swedish Armed Forces in setting up of the Swedish camp in Bamako,

Mali. A total of two complete set of Base Camp material — more than 200 containers were used by Swedish Armed Forces in the fall of 2014 in their participation in Mali.

ISAF

The Nordic countries have signed up for common logistic flights to Afghanistan, which has been an economic and logistic success. This solution gives higher flight frequency and more flexibility for each country to less expense. The Nordic countries had while they had a military foothold in Northern Afghanistan a common movement control cell (MOVCON) in Mazar-e-Sharif. This was the baseline for good cooperation and increased capacity in both tactical and strategic transport. Finland, Norway, the Netherlands and Sweden are considering using the same model for movement and transportation cooperation in Mali.

Finland, Norway and Sweden have made arrangements within NATO Strategic Airlift Capability (SAC), and conduct common flights by using Papa Airbase in Hungary as a hub. This contributes to better utilization of available assets.



4

GUIDANCE for overcoming challenges

The Nordic Defence Cooperation is something we develop together. Priorities for 2015 derive from the challenging security situation in our neighbourhood and the NORDEFCO vision for 2020. Clear political guidance results in concrete achievements on the military level.

During the chairmanship, Sweden will emphasize the following objectives:

POLICY

Strengthen the Nordic voice on security and defence issues through increased dialogue and coordination. Increase exchange of information regarding incidents and violations of air space and territorial waters. Enhance cooperation with the Baltic States within areas of common interest. Initiate an exchange of best practices and lessons learned related to national contingency planning.

OPERATIONS

Develop a *Modus Operandi* for further cooperation in new and existing operations. Increase access to secure communication. Draw on the experiences from the Nordic Battle Group and explore possibilities for a modular Nordic-Baltic unit. Continue to work on the Defence Sector Capacity Building initiative.

CAPABILITIES, TRAINING AND EXERCISE

Strengthen cooperation on air and sea surveillance in order to improve situational awareness and early warning in our region. Actively strengthen and position the Nordic region as a high-level and attractive training area as well as strengthen the concept of Cross Border Training (CBT). Develop Nordic training and exercise activities through the creation of a qualified Nordic air exercise ("Red Flag"). Develop and explore possibilities for alternate landing bases, under specified circumstances, both within the context of CBT and for national training. Continued close cooperation and exchange within military education. Possibilities for pooling of capabilities and resources will be actively sought.

ARMAMENTS

Examine national legal frameworks in order to facilitate cooperation as well as identifying challenges and obstacles with the aim of improving prospects for closer cooperation.

Establish principles for sustainable acquisition and through-life management of materiel.



