



EURODEFENSE

PRESIDENTS COUNCIL

BRUSSELS – Wednesday 19 and Friday 21 October 2011

Chairing : Eurodéfense-Belgium

Statement of decisions

(initial drafting-08 12 2011- not yet approved by the Presidents)

Encl : 1.- Attendance list of the Council meeting in Brussels.

2.- Report on EURODEFENSE website (Fr & Eng).

3.- EWG 11bis launching note (Fr & Eng).

4.- EWG 16 mandate (Fr & Eng).

5.- Planning of EURODEFENSE activities (ed. 08.12.2011).

6.- List of the European working groups (EWGs)-(ed.08 12 2011).

The Council very much regrets that EuroDéfense-Grèce and Romania cannot be present in Brussels and attend the Presidents Council meetings.

1.- Approval of the Statement of Budapest Council decisions

The Statement of decisions – dated 10 June 2011- of the Presidents Council of 12, 13 and 14 May 2011 in Budapest is approved with two remarks :

- § 2.4 : replace the word “notoriety” by “reputation” ;
- § 2.5 : ED-Luxembourg states that, for the time being, there is no commitment for organising the 2015 ICE (2nd semester 2015).

2.- EURODEFENSE organisation and internal functioning.

2.1.- EURODEFENSE Presidency 2012.

In accordance with § 4.1 of the Charter, the President of EuroDéfense-España will be in charge of the network Presidency from the 1st of January 2012 ; he will co-chair the “Spring Council” 2012 in Romania with the President of EuroDéfense-Romania.

2.2.- National associations.

2.2.1.- EuroDéfense-France

In accordance with the association statute, a new president is going to be elected not later than 31 December 2011 ; Jean Rannou will remain an association member.

2.2.2.- EuroDéfense-Italia.

The president has requested to get rid of those responsibilities. The association is going to be reorganised in the coming months.

2.3.- Extension.

The Secretary general has maintained the contacts with Poland through the Polish Embassy in Paris. It has not yet been possible to identify one well-known person to be the president of a EuroDéfense-Poland association. The Council requests the Secretary general to carry on his action.

2.4.- EURODEFENSE website (*enclosure 2*)

The Council approves the proposals of the permanent working group and confirms the trend given at the meeting in Budapest : to build an organisation mainly with the existing sites of the national associations. It notes the not-solved problem of organising the financing.

2.5.- Information to be circulated.

The Council approves two recommendations :

- It is wished that the associations give information regularly to the Council members, and to the whole network, on their internal activities (symposium, surveys, etc...).
- The associations have to be sure that the documents distributed by the Secretary general within the network reach the persons in charge of the related issues.

3.- Works of the EURODEFENSE network.

3.1.- EWGs – European working groups.

3.1.1.- Groups in progress

- **EWG 11** (ED-France) – “**Security and stability within the Mediterranean basin**”. The group is on standby since 2009 ; it is going to be re-launched with a new mandate (*ref. § 3.1.2. EWG 11bis*).
- **EWG 13** (ED-Portugal) – “**Climate change and international security**”
EWG 15 (ED-Deutschland) – “**Convergence of external and internal security**”
 In accordance with the Budapest Council decisions (May 2011), the two reports have been sent to the *High Representative of EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy* with a cover letter signed by the acting President of the network (ED-Belgium). That sending has produced no reply. The Council decides to dissolve the two WGs.
- **EWG 14** (ED-España)- “**Futures and capabilities**”.
 The note “*Our Defence and Security at a crossroads*” submitted by the working group in accordance with the Budapest Council decisions (May 2011) is approved by the Council. It will be sent with a cover letter signed by ED-Belgium President, acting President of the network, to the four following authorities :
 - *High Representative of EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,*
 - *President of the European Council*
 - *President of the European Commission*
 - *President of the Sub-Committee Security and Defence of the European Parliament.*

3.1.2.- New groups

The Council has decided to create three new EWGs :

- **EWG 11bis** – “**Consequences of the 2011 Arab upheavals on EU Defence and Security**”.
 As a follow-up of the EWG 11works, ED-France is entrusted with that group. The launching note, the draft of which is approved (*Encl 3*), will be distributed by ED-France as soon as possible.

- **EWG 16 – “CSDP development”**

The draft mandate submitted to the Council is approved (*Encl 4*). ED-France is entrusted with the survey ; it will nominate the person in charge of the WG. That group will be organized in accordance with the rules of the Charter (annex 2).

- **EWG 17 – “Cybersecurity”**

The Council approves ED-UK proposals to give a special attention to the “cybersecurity” issue. It decides to create a working group led by ED-UK who will submit its mandate as soon as possible. After mandate approval, that group will be organized in accordance with the rules of the Charter (annex 2).

3.2.- Works projects

3.2.1.- Defence European budget – EDTIB – EDEM

The Council endorses the idea of carrying on the works on those fields underlying for the Europe of Defence ; also it approves the proposals to possibly create a EWG on those issues ; for the time being, some preliminary contacts are to be established with the Enterprise & Industry Directorate-general of the European Commission and with the competent authorities of the European Parliament. ED-France will report to the Council on that issue at the 2012 Spring meeting.

3.2.2.- Relations with Russia

The Council agrees to go on for EURODEFENSE with the contacts established by ED-UK with some Russian partners. However it is requested that the aim of those contacts and the expected results be specified ; also the possibility to go on with those contacts in taking account of the internal survey just done by ED-France on “*a possible cooperation EU-Russia in the field of defence*” is to be looked into.

3.3.- Comparison of the defence efforts of the European countries.

The Council notes the great interest arisen from the ED-France survey distributed at the plenary session of the ICE. ED-France is kindly requested to carry on the 2012 up-date of it. It is reminded that the contributions from the national associations are welcome, in particular by conveying the relevant data related to their own country.

4.- Main activities EURODEFENSE 2011 – 2015.

4.1.- Year 2011.

4.1.1.- International Conference EURODEFENSE (ICE) –Brussels– 19/21 October.

The Council does thank ED-Belgium for its warm welcome and requests them to pass on its thanks to the *Royal Higher Institute for Defence*. It conveys its satisfaction for the very high standard of the organisation and the perfect progress of that *Conference* in spite of the difficulties arising from the Belgian political crisis.

The time schedule of the EURODEFENSE internal activities (19 and 21October) has been very much appreciated as it provided the participants with the unique annual occasion to meet and to have efficient workshops.

The full report of the ICE is to be produced by ED-Belgium..

4.1.2.- Internal activities of the national associations

- On the 12th of December 2011, **EuroDéfense-France** is organising a symposium on “*Libyan Crisis, Financial Crisis : What Impact on European Defense?*”. All the associations are invited to participate.

4.2.- Year 2012.

In accordance with the decision taken by the Presidents Council in London (2009), the general topic for the year has been set by the EURODEFENSE Executive President of the year, in 2012 ED-España President : “*The defence of Europe, the crisis and the future*”.

4.2.1.- Presidents Council.

According to the “EURODEFENSE activities planning”, the first Presidents Council 2012 will be organized by EuroDéfense-Romania in accordance with the rules of the Charter - § 4.1.2.; it will be co-chaired by ED-Romania and ED-España. It will take place in Romania (place and dates to be specify by ED-Romania).

4.2.2.- XVIII^o International Conference EURODEFENSE - (ICE 2012).

The ICE 2012 will be organised by ED-España in Madrid from Wednesday September 19th afternoon to Friday 21st.

4.3.- Planning 2013 – 2015.

The Council notes the call from the Secretary general to the Presidents for organising the network activities from the ICE 2013. The planning of the activities 2013, 2014 and 2015 is to be settled during the Presidents Council in Romania (Spring 2012).

4.3.1.- Présidents Council :

- in 2012, EuroDéfense-Romania,
- in 2013, EuroDéfense-France,
- in 2014 & 2015, ?????????

4.3.2.- International Conference EURODEFENSE - (ICE) :

- in 2012, Euro-Défense-España,
- in 2013, 2014 & 2015, ???????????

4.3.3.- Young Europeans EURODEFENSE Conference - (YEEC) :

- in 2013, EuroDéfense-Portugal and EuroDéfense-España
- in 2015, ?????????

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