

EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE



**EUROPEAN UNION
MILITARY STAFF**

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**EEAS 268/2/11
REV2**

LIMITE

**CSDP/PSDC
COSDP**

NOTE

From:	European Union Military Staff
To:	European Union Military Committee
No. Prev. doc.:	EEAS 268/1/11 dated 08 November 2011
Subject:	Revised draft Military Recommendation on Pooling and Sharing

AO: Cdr Philippe Valin Tel. 02-281 5756

Delegations will find attached a revised draft Military Recommendation to PSC on Pooling and Sharing as discussed in the EUMCWG on 10 November 2011.

The EUMCWG will discuss this revised draft Military Recommendation on 14 November 2011.

References:

- A. Food for Thought European Imperative Intensifying Military Cooperation in Europe “Ghent – Initiative” - Berlin and Stockholm, November 2010.
- B. Military Recommendation to PSC on Pooling and Sharing (Doc. 9847/11, dated 19 May 2011).
- C. Council conclusions on Pooling and Sharing of military capabilities (3091st FOREIGN AFFAIRS Council meeting, 23 May 2011).
- D. Letter of the Chairman of the EUMC to CHODs (CEUMC 7924/11, dated 17 June 2011).
- E. Compilation of Member States' analysis on Pooling and Sharing (Doc. EUMS 12883/1/11 REV 1, dated 19 October 2011).
- F. Pooling and Sharing - first analysis of Member States' final findings - update (Doc. EEAS 266/11, dated 19 October 2011).
- G. Collegiate view ahead of the 27 October EDA Steering Board in Capability Directors format (Doc. ARES (2011)1133723, dated 24 October 2011).

A. BACKGROUND

- 1. The Foreign Affairs Council on 23 May 2011 called for a structured and long term approach to pooling and sharing (Ref. B). Member States (MS), with the EUMC support, have identified potential new cooperative initiatives and confirmed their interest and commitment in ongoing projects (see the list at annex).

B. AIM

- 2. The aim of this document is to inform the PSC about the EUMC activities on Pooling and Sharing and to identify possible challenges with a view to the upcoming Foreign Affairs Council.

C. CONSIDERATIONS

- 3. Pooling and Sharing represents a potentially significant step to coping with MS financial challenges.
- 4. CHODs' Final Findings represent a first significant result in the Pooling and Sharing initiative in addition to ongoing projects on a regional basis. However, these results are not exclusive and must be considered as a first identification of possible orientations.

5. With cooperative initiatives now identified, it is crucial that more Member States offer themselves as Lead Nations to take these forward incrementally.
6. Significant factors, such as the impact on sovereignty, remain to be addressed at the political level for more ambitious Pooling and Sharing projects.
7. Pooling and Sharing must be seen as an enduring initiative. Initial short term investments could be necessary in order to realise longer term savings.
8. Longer term projects should consider Pooling and Sharing from the very start.
9. The possible loss of national operational autonomy when entering into Pooling and Sharing projects is a major constraint within this initiative.
10. The EUMC confirmed the regional or small group approach being the most appropriate way to initiate projects (Ref G).
11. The EUMC supports the idea of the modular approach emerging from the Pooling and Sharing initiative with MS contributing complementary packages to a greater capability in a standardised manner.
12. The EUMC is pleased to note that the EDA will draw upon CHODs' Final Findings as analysed by the EUMS.
13. The EUMS analysis has shown that one third of Member States' proposals relate to Training and Education. Consequently, the EUMS was tasked by the EUMC to propose options to facilitate Member States' activities in this area.
14. NATO is conducting a similar activity called "Building Capability Through Multinational and Innovative Approaches". Consultations at staff and political level continue in full transparency to avoid unnecessary duplications. There is a mutual understanding that there will be no competition between the organisations and that finally Member States will decide which projects to follow and, if appropriate, which organisation to ask for support.
15. The EUMC would be prepared to report on progress and eventual decisions for implementation of projects by May 2012.

D. RECOMMENDATION

16. The EUMC invites the PSC to take into account the considerations developed in this document in preparation for the Foreign Affairs Council in MoD format on 30 November 2011:

- CHODs' Final Findings represent a significant step in the Pooling and Sharing initiative in addition to ongoing projects on a regional basis.
- Now crucial that more Member States declare themselves as lead Nations for projects.
- Various factors seem to hamper more ambitious Pooling and Sharing projects; many of them remain to be addressed at the political level.

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