

ES LTC. Javier Fernández

Chairman

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Final minutes of the 1st ETAP/ETAC STEERING BOARD – Zaragoza, 25 February 2016

A. Participants :

1. Participants: BE, BG, CZ, DE, ES, FR, IT, NL, NO, PT, EATC, EDA. Detailed list of participants is in Annex B.

B. Welcome & Introduction

1. Welcome & Introduction

Mayor General Otero, Chief of the Air Mobility Command, congratulated the representatives for the success of this European initiative. Special thanks were given to EDA and ETAC.

LCol Fernández (ES Air Force Staff/Plans & Policies Division), former PMG Chairman, welcomed the Participants and presented the main objectives of the meeting that were:

- a. Approving Budget & Financial Regulations (BFR);
- b. 2016 ETAC Multinational Budget approval and 2017 ETAC Multinational Budget review;
- c. Peace Establishment manning;
- d. 2017 Programme of Work (PoW).

2. Since this was the first SB, a tour de table followed to introduce each other.

C. Agenda

The agenda was approved as follows:

- Welcome and introduction
- Budget Financial Regulations
- FY2016/2017 Multinational Budget approval
- PE and flagging positions
- 2016/2017 PoW
- AOB / next meeting / closing remarks

- Welcome and Introduction

LCol Javier Fernández, thanked Gen Otero for his welcome and presented the future ETAC Comander, LTC José Luis Romero. He will be promoted to full Colonel in April and will command the ETAC. Until this happens, LTC Fernández will chair the meetings.

An update of the ETAP/ETAC TA signature status was presented as follows:

- Signed by: BE, BG*, DE, ES, FR, IT, NL, PT
- BU: the TA has been signed, but is subject to further ratification by the National Assembly which will validate the signature. This will happen when all signatures are collected.
- CZ: ready to sign, but the process will take 3 to 4 weeks
- NO: the TA will be signed within one week.

LCol Fernández reminded to the representatives that, according to Section 20, the TA will come into effect for the Participants at the date of the last signature. It was agreed to run the meeting, discuss the topics and take decisions that will come into effect once all the signatures have been collected, hopefully in April time. This is needed to create the Centre, select the personnel and declare the IOC in September 2016.

A review of the whole process was presented with the main milestones. The Project Management Group was responsible to create the operational, financial and juridical framework of the project. Monthly meetings were organized with subject matter experts in the three different domains and after a great work; the TA was ready to sign by December 2015. Time has always been a challenge, as the objective was to reach the IOC of the Centre in September 2016. This is needed as the huge demand in advanced airlift training was no more sustainable for EDA and EATC.

- Budget Financial Regulations (BFR)

Lt Col. Jesús Revaliente (ES), former Chairman of the Legal & Financial expert meetings, explained the most relevant points of the Budget and Financial Regulation document. Draft BFR dated 20 Nov 2015 was presented to the SB for approval. However, some Participants were not in the position to agree on this version, since they had some “last minute” comments. It was also noted that the hotel ceilings established in Annex B were too low for some countries (especially Spain and Bulgaria). EU regulations will be applied to establish the hotel ceilings.

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There was an agreement about opening a new round of comments after the meeting, in order to reach a general consensus on the final version of the document. It was also stated that the BFR would be then attached to the SB minutes, indicating SB approval of the document.

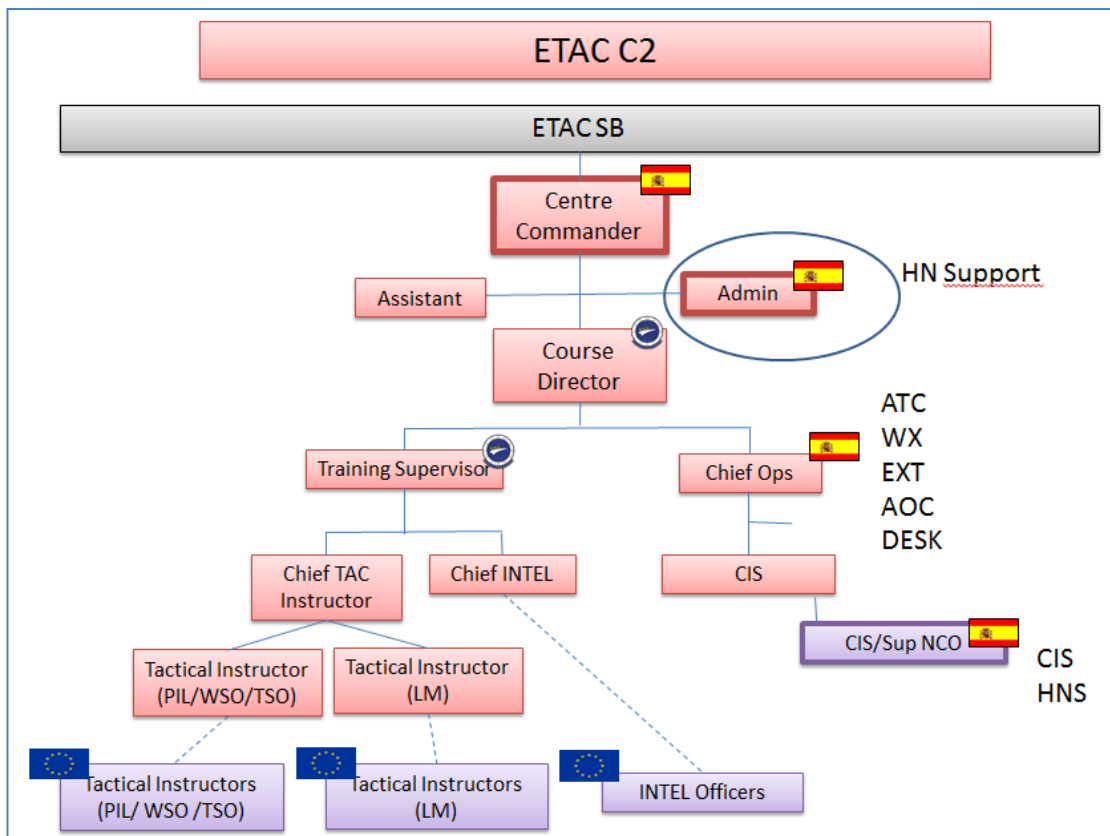
- FY2016/2017 Multinational Budget approval.

Draft FY 2016 (September-December) and FY 2017 Budgets were presented to the SB. After a short discussion FY 2016 Budget was approved.

Draft FY 2017 Budget will be reviewed taking into account the increase of the hotel ceilings agreed as well as the FY 2017 PoW. It was also noted that some additional IT costs could be necessary, derived from the requirement to maintain the IT system used for some Projects that include flying activities. After revision, the final draft FY 2017 Budget will be presented to the SB for approval. It was also noted that the approved FY 2017 Budget will be the basis to calculate the French initial instalment.

- PE and flagging positions

LTC Carlos Marin ES AHWG O&T representative presented the ETAC PE as follows:



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The positions depicted in red are the permanent posts of the Centre. Two post/positions will be covered by EATC in Eindhoven. ES will cover three (3) posts, the Commander, the Admin and the Chief Ops. Another post has been identified also as necessary (CIS NCO) and it will be covered as well by Spain. Italy will cover the Chief TAC Instructor. Therefore, there are five (posts) to be covered by the others Participants signatories of the TA.

As discussed during last PMG meetings it is crucial the commitment of the Participants to provide human resources to the ETAC. In order to reach this goal, a “flagging” conference will be held in the close future. If not enough human resources will be in place, the weight of effort and deliverables of the ETAC will be proportional to commitment of the Participants.

During the last AHWG O&T, and because the lack of commitment of the Nations there were two posts identified (Chief Intel and tactical Instructor Loadmaster) which could be put in a “dormant” status. These posts will be filled with “augmenters” from the pMS in the planned events. The availability of all the posts in the permanent structure could be identified as the condition to declare the FOC of the ETAC, in the meanwhile the ETAC will maintain its IOC (next September) until this condition occurs.

Even though the C2 structure of the ETAC is very slim (as desired by the Nations), it is remarkable that the ETAC will have a functional link with an already existing “basket” of Tactical Instructors (Pilots and Loadmasters). This instructors basket is the “engine” of the flying events, and the EATICs (European Advanced Tactical Instructors Courses) is the way to maintain enough number of Tactical Instructors (around 36-40) for the correct executions of the flying events projects (ETAP-C and ETAP-T).

- 2016/2017 PoW

Michele REGA (Fixed Wing Project Officer) provided an overview of all Airlift initiatives since 2012 when the first EATT was delivered until 2019, when the ETAC FOC is expected to be reached.

He highlighted 2016 has a key milestone when the ETAC will be created and a handover will be made between the former way to plan the events, with a Core planning team, and the new Centre, with permanent posts that will deliver advance tactic training to Europe.

According with the TA, the names of the projects will change as follows:

EATT to ETAP-T
EAATTC to ETAP-C
EATIC to ETAP-I
EATS to ETAP-S

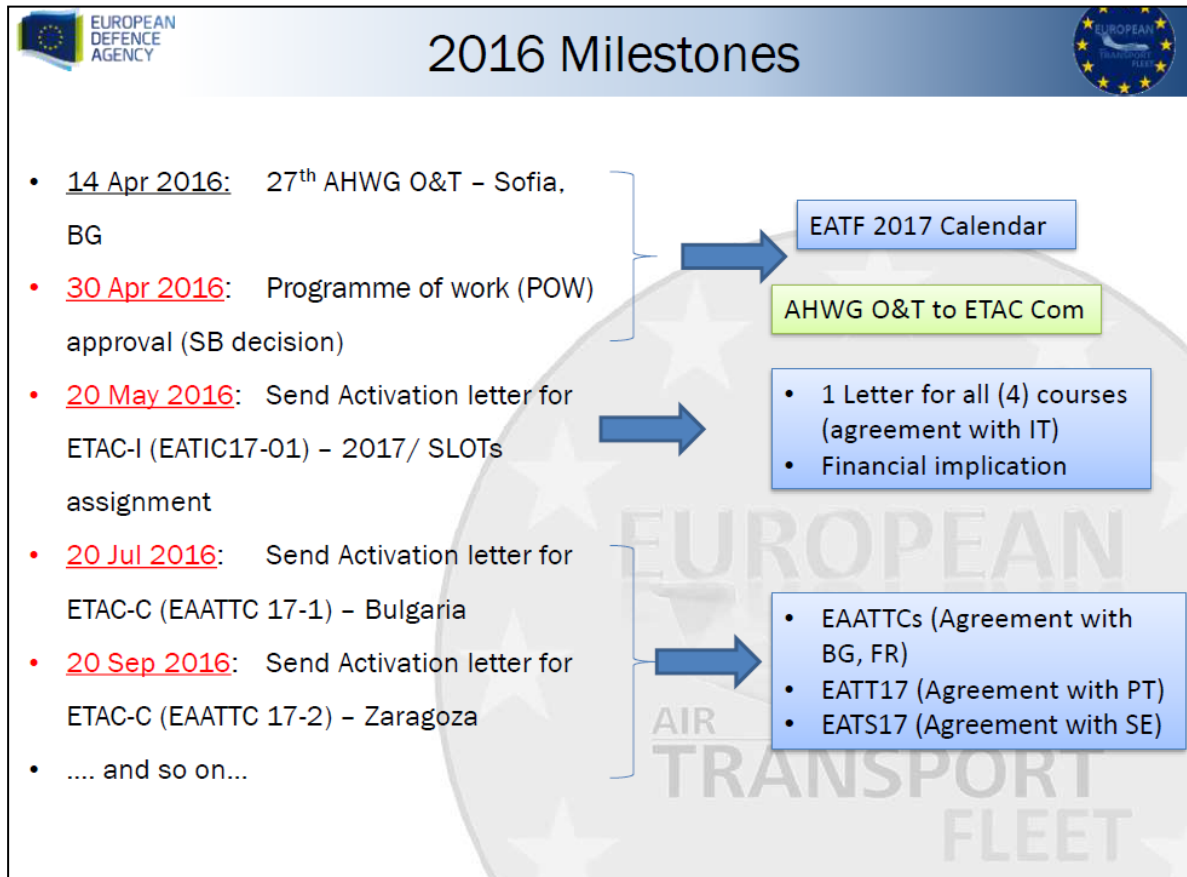
Michele REGA presented 2016 events and courses:

EATT 16		EAATTC 16		EATS 16		EATIC 16	
European Air Transport Training		European Advanced Airlift Tactic Training Course		European Air Transport Symposium		European Advanced Tactical Instructor Course	
EATT 16 10 aircraft, 19 crews 19 - 30 June, Beja		EAATTC 16 - 1 5 aircraft, 8 crews 14 - 26 Feb, Zaragoza		EATS 16 Aircrew 06 - 07 Oct, Florence		EATIC 16 - 1 6 Tactical Instructors 18-22 Jan, Pisa	
BE, DE, FI, FR, IT, LT, NL, PO, PT, UK		EAATTC 16 - 2 4 aircraft, 4 crews 22 May - 03 Jun Orleans				EATIC 16 - 2 4 Tactical Instructors 11-15 July, Pisa	
		EAATTC 16 - 3 6 aircraft, 6 crews 31 Jul - 12 Aug, Plovdiv				EATIC 16 - 3 4 Tactical Instructors 18-22 July, Pisa	
		EAATTC 16 - 4 7 aircraft, 7 crews 11 - 23 Sep, Zaragoza				EATIC 16 - 4 4 Tactical Instructors 24-28 Oct, Pisa	
		BE, BG, CZ, DE, ES, FR, IT, NL, PL				EATIC 16 - 5 4 Tactical Instructors October, Pisa	

He reminded the TA procedures and timing to develop and approve the PoW. The main milestones are:

- No later than 30 April of the year before, the ETAC COM approves a Program of Work (PoW).
- No later than 8 months before the starting date of the projects ETAC COM sends to potential Project-Participants a Letter of Activation.
- The Letters of Acceptance (participating Nations) are to be submitted to the ETAC not later than 6 months before the starting date of the Project.

A milestone slide was presented with the key actions related to the 2017 PoW



Because the ETAC will not be established until September, the 2017 PoW has been partially developed in the forum of the AHWG O&T, and in the next meetings it will be fine-tuned.

The SB agrees that 2017 will be a transition phase and PoW 2018 will be the first one presented entirely by the ETAC Commander.

It was proposed to the future ETAC Commander to attend the AHWG O&T meetings.

- AOB/Closing Remarks

The SB thanked EDA for all the good work made along these years and offered to keep on collaborating with ETAC projects, and invited to attend ETAC SB meetings.

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A flagging conference will be held in Madrid in May to tackle with the increasingly worrying issue of the manning as only Italy has confirmed its commitment with the Centre.

The next SB is planned to be in September 21st, and the opening Ceremony of the Centre (that will be at Air Chiefs level) in September 22nd. Both events will be held in Zaragoza.

The Chairman thanked the SB representatives for their participation, encouraged them to staff the manning issue back home so solutions could be found in the flagging conference, and wished good luck to the future ETAC Commander for such a challenging post.

ES LTC Javier Fernández

DECISIONS TAKEN		
Nr	SB DECISIONS	RMKS
D-01	The 1st SB minutes will be published when the last signature of the TA has been collected.	As the TA comes into effect when at the date of the last signature
D-02	Approval of the BFR	A new round was opened after the meeting. BFR attached to the minutes have been approved by consensus
D-03	EU regulations will be applied to establish the hotel ceilings.	hotel ceilings established in Annex B were too low for some countries (especially Spain and Bulgaria)
D-04	FY 2016 Budget was approved	
D-05	Draft FY 2017 Budget will be reviewed taking into account the	To take into account the increase of the hotel ceilings and the IT tool Flight-Pro
D-06	A flagging" conference will be held in the close future	To solve the manning problem
D-07	2017 PoW will be developed in the AHWG O&T	It will be ready by April
D-08	SB considers of interest ETAC-COM to join AHWG O&T meetings	
D-09	SB offers EDA to keep collaborating with ETAP	
D-10	SB invites EDA to participate in SB meetings	

NEXT EVENTS		
Nr	EVENT	RMKS
E-01	Flagging Conference	Madrid, after EURAC meeting (May)
E-02	2 nd SB meeting	Zaragoza 21.09.2016
E-03	Opening Centre Ceremony	Zaragoza 22.09.2016

1st ETAP/ETAC SB Participants

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