



European Air Transport Command



European Defence Agency



OCCAR-EA

LETTER OF INTENT (LOI)

BETWEEN

THE EUROPEAN AIR TRANSPORT COMMAND (EATC)

AND

THE EUROPEAN DEFENCE AGENCY (EDA)

AND

**THE ORGANISATION CONJOINTE DE COOPERATION EN
MATIERE D'ARMEMENT - EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION
(OCCAR-EA)**

CONCERNING

**THE JOINT OPTIMISATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE A400M
CAPABILITY WITHIN THE REMIT OF EATC**

Considering Council Decision (CFSP) 2015/1835 of 12 October 2015 defining the statute, seat and operational rules of the European Defence Agency (EDA)¹, the Convention on the establishment of the “Organisation Conjointe de Coopération en matière d’Armement” (OCCAR), signed on 9 September 1998², and the establishment of the European Air Transport Command (EATC) on 1 September 2010 by the Technical Arrangement of EATC;

Considering that a major objective for the EDA, the OCCAR – Executive Administration (OCCAR-EA) and the EATC, referred here after as the “Signatories”, is to achieve an efficient European air transport and increased European airlift capability;

Having, within the European air transport domain, common activities relating to A400M capability within the remit of EATC;

Considering that increased cooperation between the EDA, OCCAR-EA and EATC can bring significant added value to their respective Member States by enhancing synergies, avoiding duplication of efforts, reducing administrative burden, facilitating common action where possible, supporting better planning, as well as contributing to the best use of respective resources;

Considering the impact of the A400M capability, within the remit of EATC, on the European air transport capacities and capabilities, as well as the fundamental need to establish and maintain as far as possible the multinational commonality of the A400M capability within the remit of EATC, in order to ensure the most cost effective use and to enable the successful multinational operation of the aircraft, as set out in the EATC-OCCAR Future Vision Paper³;

Considering that a common “In-Service Support” and an operating commonality of the A400M capability within the remit of EATC are essential to achieve these aims;

Considering that a common configuration control, a common Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul model, a common or shared material supply system, common certifications based on EASA Regulations⁴ and EMARs⁵, and a single transport aircraft type Design Organisation are key enablers of the common “In-Service Support”;

Considering that common operation manuals for air and ground operations, harmonised and standardised regulations and procedures, as well as common training requirements and syllabi ensuring high professional standards are key enablers of the operating commonality;

Acknowledging the ongoing fruitful and continuous working interaction between the Signatories on a bilateral basis;

The Signatories declare their intention to trilaterally work together in order to facilitate the joint optimisation and development of the A400M capability within the remit of EATC.

¹ OJ L 266, 13.10.2015, p.55.

² In force 28 January 2001.

³ Reference s: 2016/0030/EATC/CMDG/COM/JFR-03MAR16; CO/DIRECTORATE/2016/00002

⁴ European Aviation Safety Agency <https://www.easa.europa.eu/regulations>

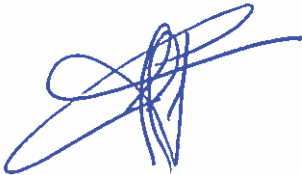
⁵ European Military Airworthiness Requirements

The Signatories intend to realise this objective by implementing the following activities, as detailed at Annex:

- developing a roadmap for cooperation, detailing the activities of common interest, with a particular focus on the A400M capability within the remit of EATC. The evolving aspect of this LoI will be ensured through an annual update of the cooperation roadmap, in line with the annually approved work programmes of each of the Signatories;
- exploring possibilities to efficiently utilise air transport over-capacities;
- jointly facilitating the commonality of the A400M capability within the remit of EATC;
- jointly and individually promoting the benefits of, and the necessary prerequisites for, commonality of the A400M capability within the remit of EATC.

For EATC

Place *ETNDUOVEN*
Date *25.01.2018*



Major General
Pascal CHIFFOLEAU
Commander EATC

For EDA

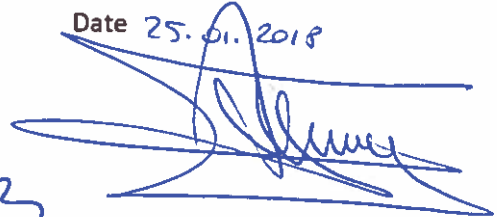
Place *ETNDUOVEN*
Date *25.01.2018*



Jorge DOMECCQ
Chief Executive of EDA

For OCCAR-EA

Place *ETNDUOVEN*
Date *25.01.2018*



Arturo ALFONSO-MEIRIÑO
OCCAR-EA Director

The Signatories intend to base the cooperation on the following key principles:

- Cooperation will focus on activities of mutual interest;
- Focus will be set on the identification of activities for developing capabilities, in order to support the respective Member States;
- Full transparency with the respective Member States on the administration of activities;
- Decision making autonomy, in accordance with each Signatory's internal processes, procedures and rules;
- The handling and release of information and documents will be undertaken in accordance with the respective rules and regulations of the Signatories. Any intellectual or industrial property rights, including any documentation, data, or technical information provided will remain vested in their respective owners;
- This Lol does not imply any financial responsibilities on the Signatories, each Signatory will cover any expenditure it incurs under this Lol (e.g.: travel and subsistence of their respective staff);
- Each Signatory remains responsible for its own personnel in relation to the activities undertaken pursuant to the present Lol.

The Signatories have identified the following areas of cooperation:

- Interoperability;
- Common operations;
- In-Service Support;
- Single European Sky;
- Training;
- Air-to-Air refuelling capability;
- Military Airworthiness and Certification.

The Signatories intend to pursue the following activities in the frame of this cooperation:

- Participation in respective meetings, seminars, workshops, conferences and fora deemed relevant for this collaboration and according to the respective processes and procedures;
- Exploitation of available expertise to enhance effectiveness of the processes within existing or newly established activities;
- Use of existing communication channels in order to promote respective activities. Bi-lateral/trilateral contacts between functional subject matter experts of the organisations will be improved and information will be exchanged regularly;
- Optimising the content of respective projects and programmes of relevance;
- Elaborating concepts or other documents of common interest in order to ensure coherence whenever possible.