

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN**

**THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**

**AND**

**THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT  
BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

**CONCERNING COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF DEFENCE AND  
MILITARY RELATIONS**

The Ministry of National Defence of the Republic of Lithuania and the Ministry of Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, hereinafter called "the Participants",

Having regard to the provisions of the North Atlantic Treaty, dated 4 April 1949;

Having regard to the Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the status of their Forces (NATO SOFA), signed in London on 19 June 1951;

Considering the Treaty on the European Union and contributing to the development of the Common Security and Defence Policy;

Desiring to complement and reinforce cooperation on subjects of common interest;

Have reached the following understanding:

## **SECTION 1 - PURPOSE**

1.1 The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to provide a framework for developing cooperation in the field of defence and military relations between the Participants in areas of mutual interest and within their competence.

1.2 The Participants recognise that enhanced cooperation in the field of defence and military relations offers an opportunity for each side to increase mutual understanding and may lead to better interoperability between their armed forces.

## **SECTION 2 - IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS MOU**

2.1 For the purposes of the implementation of this MoU, the Participants may conclude supplementary arrangements.

## **SECTION 3 - AREAS OF COOPERATION**

3.1 Co-operation will be carried out in the English language and can include the following areas:

- a. Security and defence policy;
- b. Issues related to international operations;
- c. Military education, training and exercises;
- d. Organisational and procedural aspects of the functioning of the Ministries of Defence and the Armed Forces;
- e. Armed forces - society relations;
- f. Legal issues;
- g. Defence materiel and logistics;
- h. Other areas upon mutual consent of the Participants.

## **SECTION 4 - FORMS OF COOPERATION**

4.1 The forms of the cooperation can be as follows:

- a. Official visits, consultations, meetings, conferences, seminars, training and exercises;
- b. Exchange of information;
- c. Exchange of military and civilian personnel and materiel;
- d. Sports and cultural activities;
- e. Other activities as agreed between the Participants.

## **SECTION 5 - PLANNING**

5.1 On the basis of this MoU, the Participants will attend annual staff talks to discuss the priorities and programme for, and progress in, their bilateral co-operation, and to identify new areas for co-operation.

5.2 Following the annual staff talks the Participants will prepare a plan containing the forthcoming year's activities. The intention is for this plan to be reviewed at the subsequent year's staff talks. This annual plan for cooperation will be a living document and can be amended by the mutual consent of the Participants. No formal signature of the plan will be required.

## **SECTION 6 - FINANCIAL ASPECTS**

6.1 Unless otherwise decided, each Participant will bear its own costs in relation to the implementation of this MoU. This MoU does not preclude any financial arrangements being entered into by the Participants on a case by case basis.

## **SECTION 7 - STATUS OF THIS MOU**

7.1 This MoU is not intended to conflict with the legislation in force in the states of the Participants or with international law. Should there be conflict, legislation in force in the states of the Participants and/or international law will prevail. The Participants will notify each other in the event of any conflict arising.

## **SECTION 8 - STATUS OF PERSONNEL**

8.1 While staying on the territory of the state of the receiving Participant, the status of the sending Participant's personnel will be governed in accordance with the provisions set out in the NATO SOFA.

## **SECTION 9 - PROTECTION OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION**

9.1 Classified information generated or exchanged as a result of co-operation under this MoU will be treated in accordance with the provisions as detailed in the Security Arrangement between the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning the mutual protection of classified information, signed on August 1st, 2006 in Vilnius and its subsequent amendments as well as international arrangements and applicable national laws and regulations of the states of the Participants.

9.2 International visits between the Participants involving access to or the exchange of classified information will be coordinated in accordance with Section 7 of the above mentioned Security Arrangement.

## **SECTION 10 - DISPUTES**

10.1 Any dispute arising from the interpretation or implementation of this MoU will be resolved amicably through direct consultation between the Participants and will not be referred to a national or international tribunal or any other third party for settlement.

## **SECTION 11 - FINAL PROVISIONS**

11.1 This MoU, which does not create any rights or obligations under international law, will come into effect on the date of the last signature thereto. It will remain in effect for an unlimited period of time, unless either Participant notifies the other six months in advance of its intention to terminate the MoU.

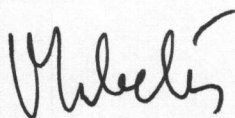
11.2 In the event that this MoU is terminated, the provisions of Section 6 (Financial aspects), Section 9 (Protection of Classified Information) and Section 10 (Disputes) will remain in effect until all outstanding payments and claims are settled.

11.3 As of the date of its entry into effect this MoU will replace the MoU between the Ministry for National Defence of the Republic of Lithuania and the Ministry of Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on defence contacts and cooperation signed on 5<sup>th</sup> October 1994.

11.4 The contents of this MoU may be reviewed at any time, and may be amended by mutual written consent of the Participants.

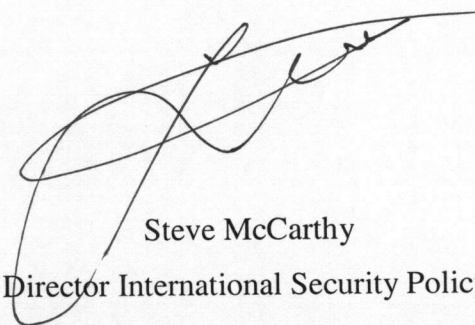
Signed in *Dublin* on the *25 January* 2013 in duplicate in the Lithuanian and English languages, both texts being equally valid.

**For the Ministry of National Defence  
of the Republic of Lithuania**



Vaidotas Urbelis  
Director of the Euroatlantic Cooperation  
Department of the Ministry of National  
Defence of the Republic of  
Lithuania

**For the Ministry of Defence of the  
United Kingdom of Great Britain  
and Northern Ireland**



Steve McCarthy  
Director International Security Policy,  
Ministry of Defence of the United  
Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern  
Ireland