



**NATO UNCLASSIFIED**  
Releasable to Interoperability Platform

17 January 2023

**DOCUMENT**  
AC/225-D(2023)0002  
**Silence Procedure ends:**  
**24 February 2023 15:30**

**Distr. AC/225(IF)**  
**Copy: NSO**

**NATO ARMY ARMAMENTS GROUP (NAAG)**  
**Revised Terms of Reference (TOR) for**  
**the Integrated Capability Group Indirect Fire**

**Note by the International Staff**

References:

1. AC/225-DS(2021)0001-REV1, NAAG Spring 2021 Decision Sheet
2. AC/225-D(2021)0008-REV2, NAAG ToR
3. AC/225(IF)DS(2022)0002, ICGIF Fall 2022 Meeting Decision Sheet
4. AC/225-D(2012)0013 (PFP) and NSA(ARMY)1103(2012)1/ARTY, ICGIF TOR

1. NAAG tasked its subordinate communities to adopt the model of its new Terms of Reference (ToR), for the formulation of the salient parts of their ToR documents (Ref.1 and 2).
2. The Integrated Capability Group Indirect Fire (ICGIF) developed its ToR and discussed at their Fall 2022 Meeting (Ref.3)
3. Upon group agreement with changes discussed in committee and comments implemented, the ICGIF ToR is now submitted to the NAAG approval under a silence procedure to end on 24 February 2023, 15.30 Hours. If the NAAG Secretariat does not receive any feedback by this date, the ICGIF ToR will be deemed approved by the NAAG (as the administrative tasking authority for ICGIF).
4. As ICGIF also reports to the Military Committee Land Standardization Board (MCLSB), this ToR is forwarded to the MCLSB for reference and notation.

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Annex: 1

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**NATO ARMY ARMAMENTS GROUP  
INTEGRATED CAPABILITY GROUP ON INDIRECT FIRE (ICGIF)  
TERMS OF REFERENCE (ToR)**

**1. INTRODUCTION, AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY**

1.1. The Integrated Capability Group on Indirect Fire (ICGIF) has been established by the Conference of National Armaments Directors (CNAD), NATO Army Armaments Group (NAAG) and the Military Committee Land Standardization Board (MCLSB). The group has been formed from the merger of the former NAAG Land Capability Group 3 on Indirect Fire and the former MCLSB Artillery Working Group.

1.2. ICGIF is a decision making body tasked by and reporting to the NAAG, it also receives specific guidance and tasks from MCLSB.

1.3. ICGIF is responsible for doctrine, interoperability and materiel lines of development in support of NATO capability development activities in the Indirect Fire (IF) domain. The group's area of responsibility includes Rocket, Artillery, Mortar; related ammunition and support systems, and Surveillance and Target Acquisition (STA) assets. Its area of responsibility also contains the ballistics aspects of direct fire alongside indirect fire and fire control systems.

1.4. ICGIF supports the NATO Defence Planning Process, and the applicable guidance for the Implementation of the Alliance Strategy.

**2. MISSION**

2.1. ICGIF's mission is to harmonize and standardize the NATO Indirect Fire capabilities in order to increase allied operational effectiveness and to promote Land and Joint Doctrine Development and Armaments Cooperation in the domain of Indirect Fire as well as Joint Fire Support (JFS). Information Exchange is a basis for all ICGIF activities. Doctrinal, Materiel and Digital Information Exchange Standardization advances interoperability within the Alliance and with the Partners. Information Exchange and Standardization together provide the foundation on which nations can pursue cooperative armaments programs. ICGIF activities directly support NATO and national operational capabilities, and NATO operations.

2.2. ICGIF responds to military requirements in its field as defined by the NATO Defence Planning Process (NDPP) and/or by NATO's Military Authorities; to tasks from the NAAG mainly through the Land Armaments Management Plan (LAMP), and to tasks from the MCLSB. These tasks stem from NDPP, and the NATO high-level initiatives like the Smart Defence, Innovation, Emerging and Disruptive Technologies (EDT), Climate Action Plan, Women Peace and Security (WPS), etc., as well as the needs of the NATO and Partners' deployable and deployed forces.

2.3. ICGIF seeks to create synergy between the doctrine/operational, procurement, science and technology, industrial and other related domains.

### **3. TASKS**

- 3.1. Execute the NAAG-approved and MCLSB supported programme of work as directed by the LAMP and additional taskings from NAAG and MCLSB.
- 3.2. Address the doctrine, materiel and interoperability lines of development in the Indirect Fire as well as the Joint Fire Support areas and where appropriate, link to other capability lines of development<sup>1</sup>.
- 3.3. Support NATO Military Authorities (NMAs) in the identification of military requirements for Indirect Fire.
- 3.4. Identify, harmonize and support NATO and National armaments activities to respond to the Alliance's capability requirements based on the NATO Defence Planning Process (NDPP) and additional requirements from NATO's Military Authorities, to include the needs of the NATO deployable and deployed forces.
- 3.5. Advise the NAAG and MCLSB on issues in ICGIF's area of responsibility.
- 3.6. Identify and propose areas for standardisation; develop and maintain Standardization Agreements (STANAG), Standardization Recommendations (STANREC), and Allied Publications (AP) upon the current version of the standardization guidance (AAP-03), and in accordance with NATO priorities as directed by NAAG and MCLSB, in order to improve interoperability of Indirect Fire systems and interchangeability of IF munitions among Allies. Coordinate standardisation efforts with NATO Commands and other standardisation bodies.
- 3.7. Develop and maintain the SG/2 Shareable (Fire Control) Software Suite (S4).
- 3.8. Evaluate the impact of new technology and new operational concepts; develop and maintain the Indirect Fire Capability Analysis Document (IFCAD), by enlarging its definition and scope as necessary.
- 3.9. Encourage information exchange in order to harmonise national doctrines, procedures, armaments concepts, requirements and policies.
- 3.10. Identify the implications, requirements and ways forward regarding the interfaces of Land Platforms with other assets, in liaison with groups responsible for soldiers, battlefield tactical manoeuvre, and air mobility.
- 3.11. Capture, identify, assess and resolve lessons from operations, training, testing and evaluation.
- 3.12. Pursue cooperative programs for the development and procurement of Land Capabilities and associated components, equipment and systems using mechanisms such as (but not limited to) Smart Defence, EMC2<sup>2</sup>, NATO Programme Management Framework (AAP-20), and other relevant multinational capability development efforts within NATO; recommend proposals to the Nations for bilateral or multilateral cooperation.
- 3.13. Direct and monitor the work of ICGIF subordinate bodies, review, approve and publish their products as appropriate.

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<sup>1</sup> Capability Lines of development are: Doctrine, Organization, Training, Material, Leadership, Personnel, Facilities, Interoperability (DOTMLPFI)

<sup>2</sup> EMC2: Enhanced Multinational Cooperation in CNAD

3.14. Provide a forum for Alliance Members and Partner nations to share updates, lessons learned, and ongoing challenges via National briefings.

#### **4. COMPOSITION AND ORGANISATION**

4.1. ICGIF is a permanent, entitled Level 2 group under the NAAG. ICGIF's composition and organization are in accordance with the guidelines set out in the Main Armaments Group (MAG) Handbook.

4.2. ICGIF elects a Chairperson and (a) Vice-Chairperson(s), who are responsible for the activities of the group. The Chairperson will report to the NAAG at its regularly scheduled meetings twice each year, and will ensure presence in the MCLSB meeting as required (at least once per year).

4.3. ICGIF directs the formation, disbandment, and work of its sub-groups and panels. The current panels and groups are (in alphabetical order):

Indirect Fire Doctrine, Terminology, and Symbology Panel (DTSP)

Indirect Fire Future Capabilities Panel (FCP)

Indirect Fire Information Exchange Requirements Panel (IERP)

Indirect Fire Procedures Panel (PP)

Sub-Group 2 Panel on Ballistics, Effectiveness and Fire Control Software (SG/2)

4.4. ICGIF members are: the representatives of NATO and Partner nations (per paragraph 4.6); NATO Military Authorities including NATO International Military Staff (IMS), NATO Commands; NATO International Staff (IS); relevant NATO liaison bodies including the Science and Technology Organization (STO) and the NATO Industrial Advisory Group (NIAG); the NATO Standardization Office; Federated Mission Networking (FMN) Staff; and relevant NATO Agencies.

4.5. ICGIF receives full support from the NATO IS, Defence Investment Division (DID) in the form of a permanent Staff Advisor. NATO Standardization Office (NSO) Army Branch assigns a permanent Standardization Advisor as an official delegate to participate in discussions, advise on standardization subject matters and manage the ICGIF standards portfolio, as well as sharing appropriate administrative duties. The IS Staff Advisor and the NSO Standardization Advisor attend the meetings of the ICGIF.

4.6. Currently, the activities of the ICGIF are open to the Interoperability Platform (IP). The legacy ICGIF documentation previously released to the former partnership programmes is releasable to IP<sup>3</sup>. Opening of ICGIF activities to new Partner Nations is subject to approval by the appropriate NATO authority and in accordance with current NATO policy guidelines as detailed in the MAGs Handbook.

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<sup>3</sup> As a result of the merger of the AC/225-Land Capability Group 3 on Indirect Fire and MCLSB Artillery Working Group, ICGIF is in principle open to all partners already allowed to take part in the activities of the original groups. Hence, any purely doctrinal work remains open to all NATO partnership schemes. On the other hand, as ICGIF adopts a capability approach, where discussions over doctrine and materiel are combined, the attendance of Partners is practically limited to the common denominator of the materiel and doctrine lines of development (ie. Interoperability Partnership). However, the meetings of the purely doctrinal Panels (DTSP, PP, EIRP) may be open to participation of all Partners.

4.7. ICGIF may involve relevant non-NATO entities on a case-by-case basis in accordance with existing guidance and subject to approval by Nations. Appropriate policy, security and technical pre-requisites apply.<sup>4</sup>

4.8. ICGIF may hold NATO-only meetings and sessions, and conduct NATO-only work.

4.9. ICGIF can propose to NAAG to hold meetings at 30+n with selected Partner Nations provided that it brings added value to its work. NAAG will seek further political approval through the CNAD, as appropriate, in accordance with the “Policy for a More Efficient and Flexible Partnership” (PO(2011)0124).

4.10. ICGIF may invite representatives from relevant industries to exchange information upon prior consent of the group.

4.11. ICGIF may establish and disband informal Level 3/4 Groups, as required for furthering its mission (informal Sub-Groups, Ad-Hoc Groups, Teams of Experts, and/or Quick Reaction Teams).

## **5. METHOD OF WORK**

5.1. ICGIF follows the working procedures of the NAAG, and is supported by the DID of the NATO International Staff (IS), in full coordination and cooperation with the NATO Standardization Office (NSO) Army Branch staff.

5.2. ICGIF normally meets two, and up to three times a year as required. VTC and teleconferencing facilities would be used where possible.

5.3. The subordinate groups and panels meet as required.

5.4. ICGIF works up to and including the classification NATO SECRET, but should use the lowest security classification appropriate.

5.5. ICGIF follows the standardization guidance given in the NATO Policy for Standardization (PO(2016)0315), the terminology guidance in the NATO Policy for the Standardization of Terminology and protection of proprietary rights guidance given in the NATO Intellectual Property Rights Policy for NATO Standardization Documents (PO(2021)0476), and NATO Interoperability Policy (Annex 1 to C-M(2009)0145 on Interoperability Documents for Inter-Committees Coordination) .

5.6. ICGIF uses the Defence Investment Portal for its day-to-day work. The formalized standardization documents are maintained at the NSO Web Site.

5.7. This ToR document is reviewed as necessary by the ICGIF and endorsed by NAAG with notation of MCLSB.

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<sup>4</sup> C-M(2002)49; C-M(2002)50; C-M(2002)60