



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 4 June 2013

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LIMITE

**CSDP/PSDC 364
COSDP 507**

COVER NOTE

from:	EEAS
to:	Political and Security Committee
Subject:	Exercise Planning Guide (EPG) for EU Crisis Management Military Exercise 2013 (MILEX 13)

Delegations will find attached the EEAS document with reference EEAS 01168/13.

Encl.: EEAS 01168/13

EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE



EUROPEAN UNION MILITARY STAFF

Brussels, 4 June 2013

EEAS 01168/13

LIMITE

**CSDP/PSDC
COSDP**

NOTE

From:	European Union Military Committee
To:	Political and Security Committee
No. Prev. doc.:	–
Subject:	Exercise Planning Guide (EPG) for EU Crisis Management Military Exercise 2013 (MILEX 13)

Delegations will find attached the Exercise Planning Guide (EPG) for EU Crisis Management Military Exercise 2013 (MILEX 13), which was agreed by the EUMC on 15 May 2013.

The EUMC recommends that the PSC take note of this document.

DRAFT EXERCISE PLANNING GUIDE (EPG) FOR
EU CRISIS MANAGEMENT MILITARY EXERCISE 2013 (MILEX 13)

References:

- A) Exercise Policy of the European Union (document 8373/1/01 REV 1, dated 8 May 2001).
- B) European Union Exercise Concept (document 9329/04, dated 07 May 2004).
- C) European Union Exercise Programme 2013-2015 (document EEAS 01701/12).
- D) Exercise Specifications (EXSPEC) for EU Crisis Management Military Exercise MILEX 2013 (document EEAS 00475/4/13, dated 08 May 2013)

A. INTRODUCTION

- 1. This Exercise Planning Guide (EPG) describes the general planning arrangements for MILEX 13 in accordance with the activities outlined in reference B.
- 2. The timeframe for the conduct of MILEX 13 is from 11 to 22 November 2013.
- 3. Conduct phase could be preceded by pre-exercise activity to be used to develop the planning documents which will be used by training audience for planning purposes during the conduct phase.

B. PLANNING ARRANGEMENTS

Aim and objectives

- 4. Planning for MILEX 13 aims at developing the supporting documentation needed for the achievement of the exercise aim and objectives.
- 5. The two fundamental exercise documents for the conduct of MILEX 13 are the Exercise Instructions (EXINST), to be noted by the PSC for use during the conduct of the exercise, and the Directing Staff Instructions (DI-INST). The EU exercise planners and Directing Staff (DISTAFF) will receive copies of the EXINST and DI-INST. The EU exercise players will only receive a copy of the EXINST.

Core Planning Team

- 6. In accordance with ref. B. the Exercise Core Planning Team (Exe-CPT) tasks are to elaborate first drafts of the exercise planning documentation (EXSPEC, EPG, EXINST and DI-INST) , and following the conduct of the exercise, to compile the initial draft Final Exercise Report (FER) on the basis of First Impression Reports (FIRs) received.

7. The Exe-CPT will ensure the necessary co-ordination between Member States and the requirement for a DISTAFF organisation that is sufficiently manned and which has the authority required to ensuring that exercise objectives are met. It also prepares the exercise planning meetings.
8. During the preparation and conduct of MILEX 13 a strong and wider coordination between both civilian and military dimensions is essential for a successful comprehensive exercise.

Exercise Planning Meetings

9. The exercise documentation will be drafted in a cycle of Exe-CPT meetings and finalised and agreed in four exercise planning meetings (Initial, Main, Central and Final). The schedule of meetings below has been designed to elaborate the exercise documentation and to support the required planning stages.
10. The following cycle of exercise planning meetings for MILEX 13 is envisaged:
 - a. The Initial Planning Meeting (**IPM**) took place on 13 and 14 March 2013. During the IPM, the draft EXSPEC was presented and the way ahead, in particular with respect to the timelines for exercise planning and other general arrangements, such as syndicate requirements, was determined. The main objectives was to reach agreement on general parameters for the design of the exercise, including manning (especially the nomination of the OpCdr) and planning arrangements, to establish the Exercise Planning Guide (EPG) and the work-plan for the Main Planning Meeting and, consequently, to provide a common basis for detailed planning following this meeting.
 - b. The Main Planning Meeting (**MPM**) took place from 22 to 23 April 2013. The MPM aimed at elaborating the key elements of the draft EXINST and considering the draft DI-INST. It also evaluated the status of exercise planning work and provided guidance on the way ahead. The MPM was the main opportunity for detailed planning for the exercise and the forum through which substantial changes or amendments to the work-plan were tabled and agreed. The final augmentation requirements for the EU OPSCEN (Brussels), the EU FHQ (Mont-Valerien), and the DISTAFF were presented in this meeting to provide Member States with an early indication of the scale, both in terms of numbers and expertise, of the posts to be filled in order to facilitate the Manning Conference.

- c. The Central Planning Meeting (**CPM**) will take place from 25 to 26 June 2013. The CPM aims at co-ordinating work regarding the DI-INST and finalisation of the EXINST. The manning conference for the EU OPSCEN¹, the EU FHQ, and the DISTAFF, will be conducted during the CPM.
 - d. The Final Planning Meeting (**FPM**) will take place from 25 to 26 September 2013. The FPM aim is to finalise the exercise documentation and to address any other open issues, including the way ahead and any outstanding requirements prior to the conduct of the exercise.
11. Meeting details will be communicated well in advance, including the administrative arrangements and syndicate requirements and agendas. Documents will be circulated as early as possible but at least two weeks prior to the corresponding Planning Meeting. In addition, given the compressed exercise planning time-table, documents will also be circulated in between meetings for Member States' comments.

Work in Syndicates

12. A number of specialised syndicates and sub-syndicates, chaired by members of the Exe-CPT, will be established as necessary for each planning meeting, including the participation of subject matter experts from Member States, in order to develop the relevant draft exercise documentation.
13. The following syndicates are initially foreseen:
- a. EU OPSCEN Syndicate will be responsible to prepare the OPSCEN
 - b. Manning Syndicate.
 - c. Budget Syndicate.
 - d. Scenario Syndicate will develop the MILEX 13 scenario, including geo-data.
 - e. Documentation Syndicate.
 - f. The Press and Information Syndicate (INFO) will concentrate on the planning of the EU crisis response information activities (real and fictitious) including Information Strategy and the necessary input to the exercise documentation.

¹ The OpCdr should be identified not later than the MPM to give him the opportunity to participate in manning process.

- g. The Communications and Information Systems Syndicate (CIS) will develop the CIS issues for the enabling of MILEX 13 as appropriate.
- h. DISTAFF Syndicate will be responsible to prepare the necessary documentation (DISTAFF Instructions) and appropriate arrangements to set up the DISTAFF.

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