PESCO National Implementation Plan

The Netherlands, December 2017

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">Binding Common Commitments</th><th>Initial parameters in the attainment of the commitments</th><th>Envisaged national contribution to the attainment of the commitments
2019 - 2021</th><th>Indicative preliminary remarks regarding the contribution to the attainment of the commitments 2022-2025</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="5">"(a) cooperate, as from the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon, with a view to achieving approved objectives concerning the level of investment expenditure on defence equipment, and regularly review these objectives, in the light of the security environment and of the Union's international responsibilities."
Based on the collective benchmarks identified in 2007, participating Member States subscribe to the following commitments:</td></tr>
<tr><td>1.</td><td>Regularly increasing defence budgets in real terms, in order to reach agreed objectives.</td><td>Defence budget 2017: 8,96 billion Euros (1,16% GDP[1])

Defence budget 2018: 10,1 billion Euros (1,29% GDP)</td><td>
<table>
<tr><th></th><th>2018</th><th>2019</th><th>2020</th><th>2021</th><th>Structural</th></tr>
<tr><td>Increase in defence spending in 2018-2021 and structurally in millions of Euros</td><td>910</td><td>1.210</td><td>1.410</td><td>1.510</td><td>1.510</td></tr>
</table>
The new government recently agreed upon this increase in defence spending.
By 2021, the Netherlands will spend an additional 1,51 billion Euros on defence annually.
In 2021 our defence budget will amount to 10,5 billion Euros. This will be (based on current estimates) 1,29% GDP.</td><td>The development of the budget is dependent on next governments.</td></tr>
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[1] Calculations on defence spending as percentage of GDP are based on the 2018-2021 budgets, as presented to parliament on September 19, 2017, including the increase in defence spending as proposed by the new government. The GDP is based on the latest forecasts by the Dutch Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis (CPB), dated September 2017.

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<td>2.</td>
<td>Successive medium-term increase in defence investment expenditure to 20% of total defence spending (collective benchmark) in order to fill strategic capability gaps by participating in defence capabilities projects in accordance with CDP and Coordinated Annual Review (CARD).</td>
<td>Total: 2 billion Euros (26% of defence spending)
Equipment procurement: 1,5 billion Euros
R&D: about 63 million Euros
R&T: n/a</td>
<td>
<table>
<tr><th></th><th>2018</th><th>2019</th><th>2020</th><th>2021</th><th>2022</th></tr>
<tr><td>Defence investment expenditure planned for 2018-2022 in % of total defence spending</td><td>26%</td><td>28%</td><td>27%</td><td>26%</td><td>25%</td></tr>
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These numbers include the increase in defence spending as was agreed upon recently by the new government.
</td>
<td>The development of the budget is dependent on next governments.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Increasing joint and "collaborative" strategic defence capabilities projects. Such joint and collaborative projects should be supported through the European Defence Fund if required and as appropriate.</td>
<td>In 2016: (based on current available data) around 30,5% of NL projects in area of collaborative strategic defence capabilities was with >50% European cooperation.

Belgium-Dutch (Belgium lead nation) project MCM semi-autonomous underwater systems for EDIDP-support.</td>
<td>Participation in Belgium-Dutch project MCM semi-autonomous underwater systems, MRTT and in F-35 programme.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Increasing the share of expenditure allocated to defence research and technology with a view to nearing the 2% of total defence spending (collective benchmark).</td>
<td>We have identified about 63 million Euros to be spent on R&D, this is about 0,7% of total defence spending. We are currently identifying all our R&D and R&T expenditures in the defence budget and expect this number to increase significantly.</td>
<td>We have identified a structural expenditure of about 63 million euros on R&D, but expect this to increase significantly when we have identified all of R&D and R&T spending in the defence budget.</td>
<td>-</td>
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5.	Establishment of a regular review of these commitments (with the aim of endorsement by the Council)	Yearly, as stated in the notification.	Yearly, as stated in the notification.	Yearly, as stated in the notification.
"(b) bring their defence apparatus into line with each other as far as possible, particularly by harmonising the identification of their military needs, by pooling and, where appropriate, specialising their defence means and capabilities, and by encouraging cooperation in the fields of training and logistics."				
6.	Playing a substantial role in capability development within the EU, including within the framework of CARD, in order to ensure the availability of the necessary capabilities for achieving the level of ambition in Europe.	Above average participation in EDA-projects in support of CDP/OSRA/KSA: 23 projects/ad hoc working groups. Lead nation for EDA-projects: MRTT, JDEAL, EU Multimodal Transport Hubs, Sharing of Spare Parts, Cross-border military transportation.	Continuation of active participation.	-
7.	Commitment to support the CARD to the maximum extent possible acknowledging the voluntary nature of the review and individual constraints of participating Member States.	Maximum possible participation and contribution of relevant information required under the CARD trial run.	Maximum possible participation and contribution of relevant information in the CARD exercise, starting in 2019 and 2021. To that end, inviting EDA to NATO bilateral consultations.	-
8.	Commitment to the intensive involvement of a future European Defence Fund in multinational procurement with identified EU added value.	Belgium-Dutch (Belgium lead nation) project MCM semi-autonomous underwater systems for EDIDP-support.	Not yet clear which project proposals will be presented or selected for EDF-funding. NL will continue to monitor project development and participation.	

9.	Commitment to drawing up harmonised requirements for all capability development projects agreed by participating Member States.	Recently harmonized requirements were drawn up with Belgium for the Belgium-Dutch project MCM semi-autonomous underwater systems. In the past NL and partners drew up harmonized requirements for the MRTT-project.	Harmonised requirements are planned to be drawn up with Germany for cooperation in the field of tactical radio communication.	-
10.	Commitment to considering the joint use of existing capabilities in order to optimize the available resources and improve their overall effectiveness.	NL enjoys extensive cooperation with Belgium, Germany, United Kingdom, France and Norway and in multinational structures by which the NL makes full joint use of existing capabilities in order to optimize the available resources and improve their overall effectiveness. NL participates in 15 Centres of Excellence (CoE's).	NL will continue and further enhance the bilateral and multilateral cooperation on multiple fronts. NL will look into potential future participation in the Centre of Excellence (CoE) for hybrid warfare.	NL will continue and further enhance the bilateral and multilateral cooperation on multiple fronts.
11.	Commitment to ensure increasing efforts in the cooperation on cyber defence, such as information sharing, training and operational support.	Full participation in cyber defence-related collaborative projects and activities, i.e. participation in Project Team Cyber.	Continuation active and passive participation in projects: cyber ranges, CySAP, Deployable Cyber Evidence Collection and Evaluation Capacity (DCEC2), MASFAD-II, EU CD E&T, DePoCyTE Cyber Defence Training & Exercises Coordination Platform (CD TEXP).	-
"(c) take concrete measures to enhance the availability, interoperability, flexibility and deployability of their forces, in particular by identifying common objectives regarding the commitment of forces, including possibly reviewing their national decision-making procedures."				

12.	With regard to availability and deployability of the forces, the participating Member States are committed to:			
	Making available formations, that are strategically deployable, for the realization of the EU LoA, in addition to a potential deployment of an EUBG. This commitment does neither cover a readiness force, a standing force nor a stand by force.	NL has formations that are strategically deployable. NL will consider its contributions to EU operations/missions on a case by case basis. What can be made available will depend on the overall number of commitments that NL has at that moment in time.	NL has formations that are strategically deployable. NL will consider its contributions to EU operations/missions on a case by case basis. What can be made available will depend on the overall number of commitments that NL has at that moment in time.	NL has formations that are strategically deployable. NL will consider its contributions to EU operations/missions on a case by case basis. What can be made available will depend on the overall number of commitments that NL has at that moment in time.
	Developing a solid instrument (e.g. a data base) which will only be accessible to participating Member States and contributing nations to record available and rapidly deployable capabilities in order to facilitate and accelerate the Force Generation Process.	NL has not offered any capabilities to the EU Military Rapid Response Database (EUMS) because NL doesn't have generically available rapidly deployable forces. NL will only make rapidly deployable forces available for specific tasks such as EUBG, JEF, VJTF or NRF.	NL has not offered any capabilities to the EU Military Rapid Response Database (EUMS) because NL doesn't have generically available rapidly deployable forces. NL will only make rapidly deployable forces available for specific tasks such as EUBG, JEF, VJTF or NRF.	NL has not offered any capabilities to the EU Military Rapid Response Database (EUMS) because NL doesn't have generically available rapidly deployable forces. NL will only make rapidly deployable forces available for specific tasks such as EUBG, JEF, VJTF or NRF.
	Aiming for fast-tracked political commitment at national level, including possibly reviewing their national decision-making procedures.	NL has a comprehensive parliamentary decision making procedure in relation to missions and operations, based on article 100 of the constitution. It was most recently reviewed in 2014.	-	-

	Providing substantial support within means and capabilities to CSDP operations (e.g. EUFOR) and missions (e.g. EU Training Missions) - with personnel, materiel, training, exercise support, infrastructure or otherwise - which have been unanimously decided by the Council, without prejudice to any decision on contributions to CSDP operations and without prejudice to any constitutional constraints.	NL will consider its contributions to EU operations/missions on a case by case basis. What can be made available will depend on the overall number of commitments that NL has at that moment in time. NL calls for integral view on CSDP missions and operations.	NL will consider its contributions to EU operations/missions on a case by case basis. What can be made available will depend on the overall number of commitments that NL has at that moment in time. NL calls for integral view on CSDP missions and operations.	NL will consider its contributions to EU operations/missions on a case by case basis. What can be made available will depend on the overall number of commitments that NL has at that moment in time. NL calls for integral view on CSDP missions and operations.
	Substantially contributing to EU BG by confirmation of contributions in principle at least four years in advance, with a stand-by period in line with the EU BG concept, obligation to carry out EU BG exercises for the EU BG force package (framework nation) and/or to participate in these exercises (all EU Member States participating in EU BG).	NL is contributing to EUBG 2018 together with Belgium, Austria and Germany.	NL intends to contribute to the German led EUBG 2020-2.	-
	Simplifying and standardizing cross border military transport in Europe for enabling rapid deployment of military materiel and	NL lead nation of this initiative in general and of PESCO-project on military mobility. To that end, NL will work on a national action	Active and stimulating role in enhancing cross-border military mobility in the EU. Continue work in various work strands in PESCO-project on cross-border military mobility. NL strives for involvement of all parties, including NATO and third	Active and stimulating role in enhancing cross-border military mobility in the EU, if and where

	personnel.	plan in 2018 and will contribute to the roadmap(s) to be drawn-up in 2018.	parties.	appropriate.
13.	With regard to interoperability of forces, the participating Member States are committed to:			
	Developing the interoperability of their forces by: - Commitment to agree on common evaluation and validation criteria for the EU BG force package aligned with NATO standards while maintaining national certification.	NL commits to agreed common evaluation and validation criteria as long as these do not deviate from NATO criteria.	NL commits to agreed common evaluation and validation criteria as long as these do not deviate from NATO criteria.	NL commits to agreed common evaluation and validation criteria as long as these do not deviate from NATO criteria.
	Developing the interoperability of their forces by: Commitment to agree on common technical and operational standards of forces acknowledging that they need to ensure interoperability with NATO.	NL commits to forces that meet agreed common technical and operational standards as long as these do not deviate from NATO standards.	NL commits to providing forces that meet agreed common technical and operational standards as long as these do not deviate from NATO standards.	NL commits to providing forces that meet agreed common technical and operational standards as long as these do not deviate from NATO standards.
	Optimizing multinational structures: participating Member States could commit to joining and playing an active role in the main existing and possible future structures partaking in European external action in the military field (EUROCORPS, EUROMARFOR,	NL participation in EUROGENDFOR, MCCE, ATARES, SEOS, EATC, MSSC, MRTT and SAC C-17.	NL intends to continue its participation in EUROGENDFOR, MCCE, ATARES, SEOS, EATC, MSSC, MRTT and SAC C-17.	NL intends to continue its participation in EUROGENDFOR, MCCE, ATARES, SEOS, EATC, MSSC, MRTT and SAC C-17.

	EUROGENDFOR, MCCE/ATARES/SEOS).			
14.	Participating Member States will strive for an ambitious approach to common funding of military CSDP operations and missions, beyond what will be defined as common cost according to the Athena council decision.	NL proponent of more common financing of EU missions and operations (incl. EU Battlegroup) through the Athena-mechanism.	NL proponent of more common financing of EU missions and operations (incl. EU Battlegroup) through the Athena-mechanism.	NL proponent of more common financing of EU missions and operations (incl. EU Battlegroup) through the Athena-mechanism.
"(d) work together to ensure that they take the necessary measures to make good, including through multinational approaches, and without prejudice to undertakings in this regard within the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, the shortfalls perceived in the framework of the 'Capability Development Mechanism.'"				
15.	Help to overcome capability shortcomings identified under the Capability Development Plan (CDP) and CARD. These capability projects shall increase Europe's strategic autonomy and strengthen the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTIB).	NL is taking measures/undertaking projects to, amongst others, enhance the logistical chain, JSIR, SOF, CS and CSS.	-	-
16.	Consider as a priority a European collaborative approach in order to fill capability shortcomings identified at national level and, as a general rule, only use an exclusively national approach if such an examination has been already carried out.	In 2016: (based on current available data) around 30,5% of NL projects in area of collaborative strategic defence capabilities was with >50% European cooperation.	-	-

17.	Take part in at least one project under the PESCO which develops or provides capabilities identified as strategically relevant by Member States.	- Military mobility - Network of logistic Hubs in Europe and support to Operations - European Medical Command - European Secure Software defined Radio (ESSOR) - European Union Training Mission Competence Centre (EU TMCC) - MCM Maritime (semi-) Autonomous Systems for Mine Countermeasures (MAS MCM) (together with Belgium lead nation) - Cyber Rapid Response Teams and Mutual Assistance in Cyber Security	-	-
"(e) take part, where appropriate, in the development of major joint or European equipment programmes in the framework of the European Defence Agency."				
18.	Commitment to the use of EDA as the European forum for joint capability development and consider the OCCAR as the preferred collaborative program managing organization.	Above average participation in EDA-projects in support of CDP/OSRA/KSA: 23 projects/ad hoc working groups. Lead nation for EDA-projects: MRTT, JDEAL, EU Multimodal Transport Hubs, Sharing of Spare Parts, Cross-border military transportation.	Continuation of active participation.	Continuation of active participation.

19.	Ensure that all projects with regard to capabilities led by participating Member States make the European defence industry more competitive via an appropriate industrial policy which avoids unnecessary overlap.	Belgium-Dutch (Belgium lead nation) project MCM semi-autonomous underwater systems for EDIDP-support.	Not yet clear which project proposals will be presented or selected for EDF-funding. NL will continue to monitor project development and participation.	-
20.	Ensure that the cooperation programmes - which must only benefit entities which demonstrably provide added value on EU territory - and the acquisition strategies adopted by the participating Member States will have a positive impact on the EDTIB.	Belgium-Dutch (Belgium lead nation) project MCM semi-autonomous underwater systems for EDIDP-support.	Not yet clear which project proposals will be presented or selected for EDF-funding. NL will continue to monitor project development and participation.	-