

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ  
OF THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE  
January 29, 2013  
Gulbene, Latvia

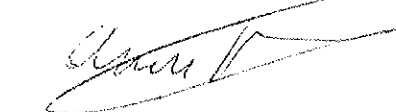
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The Minister of Defence of the Republic of Estonia, the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Latvia, the Minister of National Defence of the Republic of Lithuania, as the Ministerial Committee (MC),

Having met in Gulbene, Latvia on January 28-29, 2013,

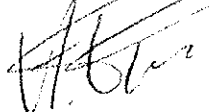
1. Expressed gratitude to Brigadier General Meelis Kiili for his accomplishments as the Commandant of BALTDEFCOL and affirmed their support to Major General Vitalijus Vaikšnoras in his future endeavours as a Commandant of BALTDEFCOL.
2. Welcomed the establishment of new Baltic states' defence cooperation framework by signing Memorandum of Understanding, which will facilitate our joint efforts in developing current cooperation projects and in establishing new ones.
3. Reaffirmed strong commitment of three Baltic states to continue further development of defence cooperation and to ensure implementation of the most effective cooperation solutions according to common interests of Baltic states within NATO.
4. Welcomed Hungary's and Italy's decision to participate in NATO Baltic Air Policing Mission alongside with already engaged Allies.
5. Reiterated importance of exercise "Steadfast Jazz" and highlighted the importance of compatibility of exercise "Baltic Host" with regional NATO exercises.
6. Stressed, in light of ongoing and future exercises, a need to expand Baltic training ranges for common use.
7. Reaffirmed commitment to continued support to Afghanistan and stressed the importance of NATO post – ISAF period engagement planning.

Mr. Urmas REINSALU




Minister of Defence  
Republic of Estonia

Dr. Artis PABRIKS



Minister of Defence  
Republic of Latvia

Mr. Juozas OLEKAS



Minister of National Defence  
Republic of Lithuania