

## **France – UK Summit: 31 January 2014**

### **Declaration on Security and Defence**

1. One hundred years ago the UK and France fought together in the First World War. Seventy years ago, our two nations were again side by side to liberate Europe and end the Second World War. This year, we will gather with Allies to commemorate these anniversaries on June 6<sup>th</sup> in Normandy and on August 15<sup>th</sup> in Provence.
2. Cooperation between our two nations on security and defence is closer now than at any time since then. As Europe's principal defence investors, fellow Permanent UN Security Council members, NATO allies and as EU member states, cooperation is crucial to delivering on our shared objectives around the World.
3. The historic commitment we made at Lancaster House in 2010 continues to be validated on operations. Our military forces are being trained and equipped to work together ever more effectively. The initial wave of defence equipment programmes launched in 2010 will deliver savings, capability and interoperability. Robust processes now better align our future requirements and we have identified new areas for cooperation. Our governments are committed to even deeper and broader bilateral cooperation on defence and security.

### **Defence Policy**

4. A compelling rationale underpins our co-operation, based on shared interests, values and responsibilities. It has been endorsed by Defence Reviews on both sides of the Channel. We recognise that instability beyond our borders can have a real impact on the security of our citizens and those of our partners. Since our last summit, France has launched military operations in Mali and the Central African Republic aimed at supporting the governments of those countries, and UN and African peacekeeping forces, in countering terrorism and insurgency and maintaining stability in their regions. The UK has provided operational support to the French armed forces in the shape of strategic airlift and surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities.
5. Working alongside the United Nations, the African Union and, in the Horn of Africa NATO, the EU's operations and missions in Africa, including in Mali and CAR, are making an important contribution to our security. But there remains more to be done to improve Europe's responsiveness to meet such challenges. Based on our experience of leadership in foreign policy and defence, the UK and France believe it is essential to take a comprehensive approach to safeguarding European and trans-Atlantic security. This means tackling instability where it arises, preventing conflict, building the capacity of local forces and encouraging long-term economic development as the most effective means to guarantee both the stability of our neighbourhood, the safety of our citizens and the security of our wider interests.

6. The UK and France reaffirm NATO's fundamental contribution to global security. We look forward to the Wales Summit underlining the commitment of all Allies to NATO's role as a security provider including through military capacity building, complementary to capacity building by the EU and the UN, as an effective tool to promote cooperation and interoperability
7. We welcome the conclusions of last December's European Council which sent a clear signal that European Member States are serious about defence and committed to taking greater responsibility for their security.
8. In this context, the UK and France emphasise their commitment to a leading role in European and Trans-Atlantic security, prioritising defence investment, working jointly to improve European defence and security capabilities, and providing mutual support to tackle shared security concerns. To that end, a biannual bilateral security policy dialogue for Foreign and Defence Ministry officials has been added to the Treaty implementation arrangements. Its task is to ensure coherent implementation of outcomes from this Summit, the 2013 December European Council discussion on defence and the 2014 NATO Summit.

### **Combined Joint Expeditionary force**

9. We are making good progress towards establishing a Combined Joint Expeditionary Force (CJEF) capable of carrying out co-ordinated and coherent expeditionary military operations. In 2010, we declared our ability to conduct together a simple non-combatant evacuation operation. Over the last three years, we have focused on developing the ability to conduct combined operations at sea, on land and in the air. A land exercise later this year will complete an ambitious programme for each environment. When it is complete we will have greatly enhanced our ability to integrate a unit from one country to an operation led by the other. For example, our aircraft could deploy as part of an Expeditionary Air Wing, our battle groups together within a brigade or our ships in as part of a maritime task group, on combat operations.
10. Our ultimate objective to be able to conduct combined joint operations will be reached in 2016. This is where more than one Service must work together in challenging physical and logistical environments in the face of capable armed opposition. The level of ambition we declared in 2012 was an early entry combined force capable of time limited but complex and demanding combat operations; we are on track to achieve this by 2016. Intensive exercises planned for 2015 and 2016 will further develop and validate our approach. We will establish a robust framework that will allow forces assigned in a crisis to deploy more quickly, with greater capability and in a wider range of scenarios. This framework will be suitable to operate bi-laterally and with additional allies.
11. As part of the development of the CJEF, we are working to create an integrated national Joint Task Force Headquarters. The project will be finalised late this year then implemented and tested using exercises in 2015 and 2016. It is at the HQ level that integration provides a real opportunity to deliver economies of scale and enhanced operational effectiveness. We have agreed to create a Combined Logistics Support Group to sustain any deployed force. Beyond 2016,

we plan further investment in training and equipment to maintain our ability to respond rapidly and flexibly together in a crisis.

12. The UK and French Navies will continue to work closely on carrier group co-operation and on co-ordinating maritime security patrols in the Atlantic to deliver maximum effect. Our Air Forces are building on the experience gained in their last major exercise in 2013. The major bilateral activity scheduled for 2014 is a land focused exercise in May.

## **Defence Equipment**

13. Cooperation in the acquisition and support of equipment and between defence industries is a key objective of the Lancaster House Treaty. We want to see more effective, deployable, and interoperable military capabilities in Europe and greater willingness to use them to export security. Better and more Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities are urgently required. Today we agreed significant next-steps on Unmanned Air Systems and Maritime Mine Counter Measures. Another priority is Complex Weapons where we have made good progress.
14. Future Combat Air System. We believe future Combat Air capabilities and the defence aerospace sectors of the UK and France will be founded on a successful Future Combat Air System (FCAS) Programme. This is why we have agreed to launch a 2 year £120M Feasibility Phase, building on Preparation Phase studies conducted since the last Summit by 6 industry partners (Dassault Aviation, BAE Systems, Thales France, Selex, Rolls Royce and Safran). The Feasibility Phase that we have announced today will develop the concepts and technologies to provide an Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle for our Armed Forces. It will also sustain and enhance vital teams and skills within the relevant industries. As a result, we will be ideally placed to decide by 2016 whether to collaborate on a demonstration and manufacturing phases. To complete the package, the joint Feasibility Phase will be complemented by national work worth around £40M each. We expect a Memorandum of Understanding to be signed at the 2014 Farnborough Airshow.
15. Medium Altitude Long Endurance. We will look to develop cooperative opportunities through a 'joint user group' for REAPER, to exchange lessons learnt and work together on air certification, training, through life support and interoperability. This group will be set up in consultation with the United States, and will be open to the European nations operating Reaper.
16. Following fruitful trials in 2013, France is considering the Watchkeeper Tactical Unmanned Air System as a promising candidate with the objective to take a decision on the replacement of the present interim system to be taken by the end of the year. In addition to joint acquisition, we are looking at the potential benefits of a joint force in terms of training, support, equipment, operations and development.

17. Land Systems. The UK needs a highly manoeuvrable armoured infantry vehicle and the combat proven French VBCI is potentially a promising candidate. There are significant benefits, if the UK acquires a vehicle already in service for France, for the CJEF interoperability.
18. We both intend to fit the 40 mm CTA cannon to future land combat vehicles. There is also a promising dialogue on a joint approach to procurement, support and configuration issues for the VHM/Viking amphibious tracked vehicle and on Counter Improvised Explosive Device equipment and techniques.
19. Complex Weapons. The two governments, with MBDA leading for industry, have agreed a strategy to work towards rationalising Complex Weapons capabilities in Europe to secure significant efficiencies on future programmes by 2020. Significant steps to implement “One Complex Weapons” will be achieved in 2014. The key element of this work this work is a coordinated development and acquisition approach that eliminates duplication in the industrial base. The first step has been to start implementing balanced Centres of Excellence (CofE) within MBDA. This marks the start of managed inter-dependence for certain missile sub-systems.
20. Both nations have decided to order a naval helicopter borne anti-ship missile known as Future Anti Surface Guided Weapon (Heavy) in the UK and Anti Navire Léger in France. A MoU was signed today by the two Ministers of Defence and we will sign the contract with MBDA for the development and manufacture of the FASGW/ANL missile.
21. Progress has also been made on the SCALP-EG and Storm Shadow refurbishment and upgrade programme where both governments have agreed to share data associated with national concept and assessment phase programmes. We aim to agree a Memorandum of Understanding for staffing by early summer 2014. Looking further ahead, we continue to work to progress the joint concept study assessing possible solutions to meet our long term requirements to replace Harpoon, Exocet, and Storm Shadow/SCALP. The concept study is due to complete later this summer.
22. We have agreed to launch a bilateral dialogue on Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD). This would include analysis of the potential to develop a longer range BMD role for the Aster missile; this work has synergies with the One Complex Weapons initiative.
23. Maritime Mine Counter Measures (MMCM). The FR/UK MMCM project will deliver unmanned underwater vehicles capable of finding and neutralising seabed mines. We have agreed to commit to a design stage and empowered OCCAR to place by the end of 2014 a 2 years contract worth around £10M each. A decision whether to proceed to manufacture will be made by 2016.
24. A400M. France and UK will continue to work with industry to deliver a common and affordable support plan for their A400M transport fleets, addressing long term requirements and including common spares. In a mutually advantageous move, which will allow the aircraft to enter service with the RAF earlier than planned, we

have agreed to exchange two aircraft delivery slots. We are cooperating closely on overall type and individual airframe acceptance. Separately, RAF personnel are working alongside their French counterparts to acquire first-hand experience of this new aircraft. We have agreed mutual processes for airworthiness and cargo handling approvals to enable better reciprocal support.

25. Satellite Communications. As part of national acquisition strategies, we are exploring pooling high value Satellite Communication facilities. The potential benefits must be balanced with the requirement for operational sovereignty in certain domains. We are also both working through NATO to explore a broader approach within the NATO future Satcom capability in 2014.
26. Submarines. We are cooperating at system and sub-system level, including on sonar and electrical power systems. For the future, we see potential to work together more closely on environmental control equipment and for an agreement on reciprocal secure use of research facilities.
27. Research and Technology. We have endorsed a research and technology spending target of €50M each per annum to support current and future equipment programmes and to understand the potential impact of emerging technology. This is essential to better align our technology goals and requirements. We will further strengthen research by encouraging our scientists and engineers to network. We will expand the joint PhD programme to foster a culture of cooperation in the next generation of research scientists.
28. Test and Evaluation. We intend to achieve significant efficiencies by implementing combined test, evaluation and qualification activities from the earliest stages of cooperative programmes. This will avoid duplication at the testing stage and promote interoperability once equipment is in service. We will share our test and evaluation investment plans and address jointly how to reconcile any tensions between environmental issues and capability development.
29. Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear defence (CBRN). This topical field has been identified as a promising new area for cooperation. Potential themes include: the detection of biological agents in real-time; light-weight physical protection equipment; and decontamination standards. Our experts will look for opportunities in terms of Science and Technology, Joint Doctrine and Capability Development roadmaps.

### **Defence Nuclear Cooperation**

30. We are making excellent progress with the development of world class scientific facility Epure in Valduc to underwrite the safe and assured performance of our respective nuclear weapon stockpiles. Final national investment approvals were recently granted by the two Governments: a significant step that deepens our commitment in accordance with the Treaty. It was agreed today to optimize the efficiency of the Teutates project by taking benefice of the refurbishment of a facility located in Aldermaston. We also have agreed to subject more of the technical and scientific data that underpins warhead certification to peer review;

to work together on developing energetic materials for the future; and to conduct joint research at the laser facilities located at AWE Orion and CEA/DAM - LMJ. There is no greater evidence of the value we both attach to the bilateral relationship than our willingness to work together in this most sensitive area.

## **Counter Terrorism and Intelligence**

31. Tackling Radicalisation And Violent Extremism. The UK and France share a commitment to tackle radicalisation and violent extremism. The attacks in Woolwich and La Défense in May 2013 demonstrated the common threat we face. Over the past year we have shared experience on strengthening the means to identify and address radicalisation and violent extremism, and are committed to continue to work together to tackle radicalisation and violent extremism in all their forms. France and the UK have co-operated bilaterally and through the EU to share information about individuals travelling to Syria and other theatres to fight jihad. We are taking steps to prevent travel and prosecute anyone involved in acts of terrorism overseas.
32. Aviation And Border Security. The UK and France have been at the forefront of the EU's efforts to introduce more stringent security controls in the aviation sector. Specifically, we have conducted joint assessments of aviation security in key locations outside the EU. Both the UK and France are seized of the need to use passenger data more effectively to enhance border security and have worked closely to integrate advance passenger information (API) and passenger name records (PNR) into border management across the EU. The UK and France plan to increase their close co-operation on border security, especially in North & West Africa, to disrupt terrorist routes in the region.
33. Intelligence Cooperation. Our intelligence and security relationship is stronger than ever and continues to grow and deepen. We are threatened by the same strategic security risks and we share a common commitment to keeping our people safe at home and promoting peace and stability overseas. These are global challenges which require international collaboration. We are clear that working together, we can achieve more. So we have agreed a wide ranging programme of work to build on our relationship in this field, which could include an initiative to pool our insights and intelligence on some of the security concerns which face both our countries. With this sort of cooperation, we will enhance our understanding of the threats we face and ensure we are both in a better position to respond.
34. North And West Africa. We will continue our joint efforts to tackle security issues in North and West Africa, in particular terrorism as well as drug and arms trafficking. Our cooperation in this region will take into account the nexus between security and development to promote long term stability.

## **International security**

35. Our consideration of key foreign policy issues included discussions on CAR, Iran and Syria. This dialogue reaffirmed the shared priorities and common world view at the core of the Lancaster House Treaties.

## **Summary**

36. We have instructed the Senior Level Group to oversee further work and to report back to us at our next Summit to be held in France.