

Framework Arrangement for British-Finnish Defence Co-operation

between

the Ministry of Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

and

the Ministry of Defence of Finland

INTRODUCTION

Recalling the strong relationship between our Defence Ministries and Armed Forces, and our extensive range of co-operative activity and;

Recalling:

The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Finland and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning the Mutual Protection of Classified Information,

The Memorandum of Understanding on Defence Contacts and Cooperation between the Ministry of Defence of Finland and the Ministry of Defence of the United Kingdom, signed on 9 March 1998,

The Memorandum of Understanding between The Secretary of State for Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Finland on co-operation in the field of research, development, production and procurement of defence related equipment and industrial co-operation signed on 21 September 1993 and renewed in 2013, and

The Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Ministry of Defence of Finland concerning the Conduct of Military Exercises and Training and the provision of Host Nation Support that was signed on 15 May 2007,

Stating that this Framework Arrangement builds and expands on these MoUs and confirms our intention to strengthen our bilateral defence relationship further, and enhance our regional security and our contribution to wider European Defence capability,

the Ministry of Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Ministry of Defence of Finland (hereafter the Participants) have reached the following understanding.

AIM

This Framework Arrangement sets out our strategic resolve to increase the coherence between our respective Defence Ministries and Armed Forces; to build on current co-operative activity to identify and prioritise new initiatives to work together to develop our defence capabilities; all with the aim of enhancing our ability to work and deploy alongside each other operationally and act jointly.

OBJECTIVES

Collaboration in the fields of defence and security policy, logistics, maintenance, research, the development of common operational concepts and doctrine within a NATO/EU framework, and training and exercises will be explored to maximise the opportunities for bilateral co-operation between our two countries' Defence Ministries and Armed Forces.

In order to do so, the Defence Ministries and Armed Forces of the Participants will:

- a. Identify, discuss and strive for a common understanding of strategic defence and security issues;
- b. Enhance interoperability and improve the capability to act jointly;
- c. Develop co-operation in the field of multinational operations, defence-related security sector reform and defence capacity building in support of international stability, peace and security;
- d. Strive to optimise the use of our defence resources and improve cost-effectiveness through sharing best practice;
- e. Seek technological benefits and efficiencies, sharing knowledge where possible;
- f. Promote defence industry collaboration between both countries;
- g. Conduct Defence Talks between the respective Ministries of Defence and the Armed Forces on a regular basis to discuss the status and priorities for bilateral co-operation and to identify new areas for co-operation;
- h. Seek especially to strengthen bilateral co-operation in the following areas:
 - Exercises
 - Training
 - Operations
 - Concepts and Doctrine
 - Pooling and Sharing
 - CBRN Defence
 - Information sharing
 - Standardisation

STATUS

This Framework Arrangement does not represent a legally binding commitment between the Participants under international or national law.

Any disputes regarding the interpretation or application of this Framework Arrangement will be resolved only by consultation or negotiation between the Participants and will not be referred to any national and/or international tribunal or third party for settlement.

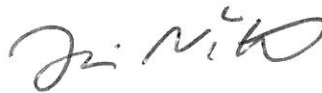
All activities of the Participants under this Framework Arrangement will be carried out in accordance with Participants' respective national laws and regulations and international obligations by which the Participants are bound.

Signed in duplicate

on 9th July 2016

Handwritten signature of Michael Fallon in black ink.

Secretary of State for Defence of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland

Handwritten signature of Jari Niemi in black ink.

Minister of Defence of
Finland