

FRAMEWORK ARRANGEMENT
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF FINLAND
AND
THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF NORWAY
CONCERNING DEFENCE COOPERATION

INTRODUCTION

Recalling:

The General Security Agreement on the Mutual Protection and Exchange of Classified Information between Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, dated 7 May 2010 (GSA),

Sopimus Suomen hallituksen ja Norjan hallituksen välillä tavaroiden ja palvelujen vaihdon ylläpitämisestä sota- ja kriisitilanteissa / Avtale mellom Kongeriket Norges regjering og Republikken Finlands regjering om opprettholdelse av vare- og tjenestebytet i krigs- og krisesituasjoner, dated 14 April 2005,

Agreement between the Governments of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden concerning Cooperation in the Defence Materiel Area, dated 10 March 2015, and its Annexes concerning Joint Procurement, dated 14 April 2016, as well as Security of Supply, dated 9 April 2019 and amended 5 November 2020, and Export Control, dated 5 November 2020,

The Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Defence of Norway and the Ministry of Defence of Finland on Cooperation in the Field of Research, Development, Production, Procurement and Life-Cycle Support of Defence related Equipment and Industrial Cooperation, dated 21 July 2015,

The Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of Denmark and the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Finland and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Iceland and the Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of Norway and the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden on Nordic Defence Cooperation (NORDEFECO), dated 5 November 2009,

Statement of Intent on Enhanced Operational Cooperation among the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Finland, the Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of Norway and the Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of Sweden, dated 23 September 2020, and

The Framework Arrangement between the Ministry of Defence of Finland and the the Ministry of Defence of Norway concerning Defence Cooperation, dated 27 September 2018,

the Ministry of Defence of Finland and the Ministry of Defence of Norway (hereafter the Participants) have reached the following understanding:

AIM

The defence relationship between the Participants has been built on long-standing cooperation and mutual trust. This Framework Arrangement updates and replaces the Framework Arrangement concerning Defence Cooperation signed in 2018, to reflect the advances and ambitions of the defence cooperation between the Participants especially in the area of operations planning, noting that Norway plans to transfer command to NATO in crisis and war. This Framework Arrangement sets out our strategic resolve to deepen and further increase the practical cooperation between our respective Defence Ministries and Armed Forces; to build on current cooperative activities and implement new initiatives; all with the aim of enhancing our ability to work and deploy alongside each other operationally and to act jointly. It aims at strengthening the defence capabilities of the Participants and increasing stability especially in Northern Europe.

AREAS OF COOPERATION

We intend to deepen our defence partnership and to improve our defence cooperation through a wide range of activity areas, including but not limited to enhancing cooperation in the following fields:

- a. defence talks between the respective Ministries of Defence and the Armed Forces on a regular basis,
- b. interoperability and improved capability to act jointly,
- c. defence materiel and industry, including military security of supply,
- d. capability development,
- e. human resources and military education,
- f. training and exercises,
- g. conduct Table Top Discussions on the policy and military levels to address common security concerns in our region,
- h. cyber defence and countering hybrid threats,
- i. international operations and defence capacity building,
- j. research and development,
- k. joint combined situational awareness,
- l. discuss and where appropriate coordinate relevant national operations plans between Finland and Norway in areas of common concern and interest,
- m. explore the possibility for common operations planning in areas of common concern and interest.

Participants also seek to deepen cooperation through identifying new areas of cooperation.

STATUS

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

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.

The implementation of this Framework Arrangement will be reviewed regularly.

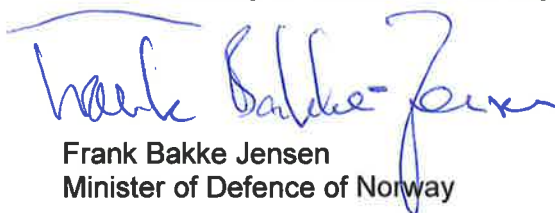
Signed in duplicate *in Tuusula* on *29 June 2021*

For the Ministry of Defence of Finland

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Antti Kaikkonen', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Antti Kaikkonen
Minister of Defence of Finland

For the Ministry of Defence of Norway

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Frank Bakke Jensen', with a large, stylized 'J' at the end.

Frank Bakke Jensen
Minister of Defence of Norway