



Draft Defence Ministers' Political Declaration

Regarding the timely Development and Implementation of the European Military Airworthiness Requirements

Steering Board, 17 November 2009

We, the European Defence Agency Steering Board in Defence Ministers' formation:

- 1) Acknowledging that the EDA participating Member States recognise that the lack of a common approach to military airworthiness is significantly increasing the cost of air systems and causing significant delays in European aircraft programmes;
- 2) Expressing our understanding that timely development and implementation of the harmonised European Military Airworthiness Requirements (EMARs) should mitigate the abovementioned deficiencies as well as improve the European Defence Technology and Industrial Base (EDTIB) competitiveness;
- 3) Emphasising the aim of EMARs to define harmonised common requirements procedures and processes, consistent with International Civil Aviation Organisation Conventions (ICAO) and European Commission (EC) principles. The documents should be based on European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) (EC) regulation N°216/2008 and other subsidiary documents, but will take into account specific aspects of military operations. Ongoing work related to the Single European Sky will be taken into consideration;
- 4) And recognising that the common EMARs will provide the European military airworthiness authorities the opportunity for mutual recognition. To ensure transparency national deviations should be declared. It should also be noted that the national airworthiness authorities involved in a particular programme can define more stringent requirements to meet particular national needs;

Declare our political support for national airworthiness authorities to develop and implement the EMARs. These requirements shall be developed in line with the Endorsed Roadmap¹ and with the Basic Framework document established by the MAWA Forum.

¹ EDA Doc. No. 2008/39 of 10 November 2008 on a "Roadmap on an EU-wide Forum for Military Airworthiness (MAWA)"