On 13 September 2012, Lieutenant General Kenan Hüsnüoğlu, Commander of the NATO Rapid Reaction Corps-Turkey (NRDC-T), paid a visit to Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast (HQ MNC NE) to discuss a common plan of preparations for the mission in Afghanistan in 2014.

In accordance with the rotation plan, the personnel of NATO Rapid Reaction Corps-Turkey, supported by Szczecin-based Multinational Corps Northeast, will assume the positions at the command headquarters of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan in 2014.

In spite of ongoing changes within the ISAF forces and commands, both Corps have been planning mission preparation process and division of tasks and positions for several months already.

The topics raised during the visit of General Hüsnüoğlu referred to mainly the synchronization of training events as well as personnel, logistics and planning matters. It has already been agreed

on that the personnel of NRDC-T will assume the majority of positions in the first half of 2014 and will only be supported by MNC NE staff, whereas in the second half of 2014 MNC NE will be in lead, supported by NRDC-T personnel. An overall responsibility for mission preparations will be shared accordingly as well: NRDC-T will conduct the preparation process for the soldiers deploying to Afghanistan in the first half of 2014 and MNC NE – for those setting off for ISAF in the second half of the year.

The visit of General Hüsnüoğlu, who has only recently assumed the position of NRDC-T Commander, contributed to first summaries of ongoing preparations and reinforced the mutual relations between the Corps in Szczecin and Istanbul. For sure, it will also positively influence future coordination of training efforts as well as the performance of soldiers of the two Corps in the mission in Afghanistan.

Photo by: SGT Maksymilan Halec, POL A