

Czech plans for affiliation

Written by AG

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A delegation from the General Staff of the Czech Armed Forces, headed by the Deputy Chief of the General Staff Major General Miroslav Žižko, visited Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast (HQ MNC NE) on 22 January 2013 to discuss a possible affiliation of Czech units to the Corps.

“We are looking for a higher than a brigade headquarters in the NATO Force Structure because the Czech ambition is to provide Brigade Task Group for NATO operations. And we need, of course, to prepare our officers and non-commissioned officers for work so we would like to affiliate our units,” said Major General Miroslav Žižko about Czech interest in Multinational Corps Northeast.

“We are not talking about a fixed affiliation but there is a really good opportunity for us to train our brigade staff by your Corps Headquarters, to be subordinated to the Corps during exercises and preparations for missions. We are also looking for deeper cooperation beyond 2014 because the Afghanistan mission will be changed and I think we have to go back to the training programmes,”

General Žižko defined the main areas of interest. Even though no binding decisions have been taken, General Žižko seemed to be content with the results of the discussions at Baltic Barracks:

“I think there are good conditions for affiliation of our soldiers to this Headquarters.”

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Czech Deputy Chief of the General Staff was assisted by Colonel Jaromír Durna from the Force Development Division, Lieutenant Colonel Karol Schrenkel from the Force Planning Division and Mr Marek Hruška from the Defence Policy Department of the Ministry of Defence in order to collect as many details as possible and discuss various topics. The delegation was very much interested in the Corps' future, including the Corps' role and position within the NATO Force Structure, the Corps' vision and perspectives for future development. All the gathered information will be presented to the Czech Chief of General Staff for his decision upon the possible affiliation to Multinational Corps Northeast.



The MNC NE Commander Major General Bogusław Samol very positively welcomed the interest from the Czech side in MNC NE as the cooperation with the Corps' member states, like the Czech Republic, and new partners has been among the Commander's priorities.

Photos by: SGT Maksymilian Halec, POL A