On 5 - 6 June 2012, representatives from the Personnel Branch of G-1 Staff Division of Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast (HQ MNC NE) took part in the ISAF CJ1 (Combined Joint 1) Pre-Deployment Training conducted by the Human Resources Branch from the Allied Joint Forces Command (JFC) Brunssum.

Even though the next deployment to Afghanistan for the personnel from the Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast (HQ MNC NE) is foreseen for 2014, the initial preparatory steps have been already taken. Among them, an important one was taking part in the Pre-Deployment Training conducted at the Allied Joint Forces Command (JFC) Brunssum.

The aim of participating in the event was to develop a comprehensive understanding of the ISAF manpower doctrine and procedures, liaison elements, principles, duties and responsibilities and, to the extent possible, to identify challenges that might be faced during the manpower planning process for ISAF 2014. There were 32 participants at the training representing different headquarters and commands: SHAPE, Headquarters ISAF, ISAF Joint Command, Eurocorps, NATO Rapid Deployable Corps Spain, ESP, NATO Rapid Deployable Corps Italy, 1 German-Netherlands Corps, NATO Rapid Deployable Corps Turkey and many others.

The training is a required NATO training for those deploying to ISAF Combined Joint (CJ1) Staff Division and is also very useful for those who will be working on or interacting with the ISAF Human Resource Management issues, for unit in-place force managers, J1 planners as well as for handling manpower and manning issues. Moreover, except above issues, the training covered the area of CJ8 Staff Division, i.e. fiscal responsibilities with the main focus on Crisis Response Operations' urgent requirements, purchasing and contracting.

All briefings were based on experiences from the ISAF mission. Therefore, it was a good opportunity to clarify all problems and aspects regarding ISAF directly with personnel working on those issues in the theatre.

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