

STATEMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE COMBINED COMMUNICATIONS ELECTRONICS BOARD
AND THE MULTINATIONAL INTEROPERABILITY COUNCIL

‘Cooperation embodies the coordination of all activities so as to achieve the maximum combined effort from the whole. Goodwill and the desire to cooperate are necessary at all levels within the Services, between the Services and the Government, and between Allies.

Cooperation is as essential in planning and preparation in peacetime as it is in conflict, and is greatly enhanced through the maintenance of joint and combined interoperability. It is a means of attaining concentration of combat power with prudent expenditure of effort’

An ADF Principle of War, ADFP1

The Combined Communications Electronics Board (CCEB) and the Multinational Interoperability Council (MIC) (the ‘Participants’):

- **RECOGNIZING** that military operations will increasingly involve joint and combined application of the national forces and that interoperability between Allied nations is essential for the successful conduct of joint and combined military operations;

- **RECOGNIZING** that Command, Control, and Communications and Computer Systems (C4) is a vital element of military operations;

- **RECOGNIZING** that sufficient commitment and resources must be applied by nations to resolve C4 issues of concern while being cognizant that resources available to the Participants at both the national and international level are limited;

- **RECOGNIZING** that closer coordination of efforts and increased cooperation between the Participants in areas of mutual concern may lead to enhanced operational effectiveness during joint and combined operations and more effective use of limited resources;

- **DESIRING TO RECORD ARRANGEMENTS** to establish procedures and agreements for further cooperation and coordination of effort to resolve C4 issues of mutual concern to the Participants;

HAVE DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1: ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS

1. The role or principal objective of each Participant is as follows:

- a. The Combined Communications Electronics Board (CCEB) role is to maximize the effectiveness of combined operations by the definition of a joint and combined C4 interoperability environment, and enhance interoperability of military communications and information systems in support of command and control. Member nations are: Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- b. The Multinational Interoperability Council (MIC) role is to provide a multinational senior level forum to address policy, doctrinal, and planning issues affecting "information interoperability" in multinational operations. The overall goal of the MIC is to provide for the exchange of relevant information across national boundaries in support of the warfighter in coalition operations. Its member nations are: Australia, Canada, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

ARTICLE II: AIM

2. The aim of this Statement of Cooperation is to articulate for all participants the desire and direction of the CCEB and MIC leadership for a coordinated and cooperative approach to issues of mutual interest and concern.

ARTICLE III: STATEMENT OF COOPERATION

3. We ENDORSE the Statement of Cooperation as an enduring symbol of our common desire to develop, maintain, and enhance cooperation at all levels between staff of each Participant on issues of mutual interest or concern.
4. The MIC SUPPORTS the CCEB position as a leader in developing multinational C4 systems interoperability.
5. The CCEB SUPPORTS the MIC position as a leader in developing Joint/Combined doctrine and defining the Warfighters C4 requirements.
6. We INTEND that the CCEB Executive Group Chairman will also chair the Network Multinational Interoperability Working Group (MIWG) and that the CCEB will fully support the MIC Network MIWG. When the chairmanship of the CCEB Executive Group (EG) is held by a CCEB member nation that is not a MIC member, the CCEB EG will designate the Network MIWG Chairman.
7. The CCEB INTENDS that non-CCEB members of the MIC will be invited to participate in those CCEB groups directly involved in MIC directed activities.
8. We INTEND that New Zealand is granted observer status at MIC meetings.
9. We INTEND that the CCEB will be represented and provide status updates at the MIC, MIWG, and Executive Committee meetings as required.

10. We INTEND that the MIC will be represented and provide status updates at CCEB Board, Executive Group, and Working Group meetings as required.
11. We SUPPORT the exchange of information on ongoing or proposed tasks and INTEND that the outcomes and recommendations from joint cooperative activities will be freely available for consideration and implementation if appropriate, by both Participants, whether or not they were active participants in the activity.
12. We INTEND that this Statement of Cooperation is non-binding in law.
13. We INTEND that this Statement of Cooperation will enter into effect following endorsement of and signature by the Senior Principal of each of the Participants.

**For the Combined Communications
Electronics Board**

Signature: 

Name: Air Vice Marshal P.G. Nicholson

Title: Chairman of Principals

Date Signed: 7 September 2001

Place Signed: Canberra Australia

**For the Multinational
Interoperability Council**

Signature: 

Name: G. S. Newbold
Lieutenant General, U.S.M.C.
Director for Operations

Title: U.S. MIC Principal

Date Signed: 25 February 2002

Place Signed: Pentagon, Washington D.C.

Original