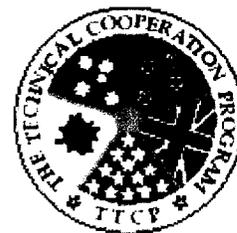
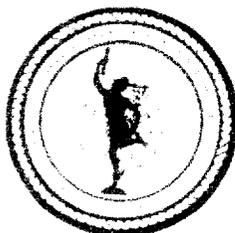


**AMERICAN, AUSTRALIAN, BRITISH, CANADIAN AND NEW ZEALAND  
INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STANDARDIZATION FORA**



**MULTI-FORA  
STATEMENT OF  
COOPERATION**

**May 2003**

# **MULTIFORA STATEMENT OF COOPERATION**

**May 2003**

## Preamble

The following statement of cooperation between the Multinational Interoperability Council (MIC); the Combined Communications Electronics Board (CCEB); the America, Britain, Canada and Australia Armies Standardization Program (ABCA); the Air Standardization Coordinating Committee (ASCC); the Australian, Canadian, New Zealand, United Kingdom and United States of America Naval Command, Control, Communications and Computers Organisation (AUSCANNZUKUS); and The Technical Cooperation Program (TTCP) has been agreed between all parties. The original agreement dated 22 July 1999 has served the purpose of fostering cooperation between some of the parties. This agreement builds on the original version to encourage wider cooperation, particularly in light of the Global War on Terrorism. The original statement is held on file by the Permanent Secretary of the CCEB.

## **STATEMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE MULTINATIONAL INTEROPERABILITY COUNCIL, COMBINED COMMUNICATIONS ELECTRONICS BOARD, THE ABCA ARMIES STANDARDIZATION PROGRAM, THE AIR STANDARDIZATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE, THE AUSCANNZUKUS NAVAL C4 ORGANISATION, AND THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM**

*'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 Multinational Interoperability Council, the Combined Communications Electronics Board, the America, Britain, Canada and Australia Armies

Standardization Program, the Air Standardization Coordinating Committee, the AUSCANNZUKUS Naval Command, Control, Communications and Computers Organisation, and The Technical Cooperation Program (the 'Parties'):

- **RECOGNISING** that military operations 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;

- **RECOGNISING** that Command, Control, Communications, and Computer systems (C4) are a vital element of military operations;

- **NOTING** that there are C4 issues of mutual interest and concern to the Parties (all or severally), which are often addressed concurrently but in isolation;

- **NOTING** that, in response to an initiative of the US Vice Chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Vice/Deputy Chiefs of the CCEB nations agreed in early 2001 that the CCEB should take a leading role in facilitating coordination on C4 matters between the CCEB nations and the various single Service groups.

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

- **RECOGNISING** that closer coordination of efforts and increased cooperation between the Parties 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 Parties;

**HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:**

#### **ARTICLE I: ROLE OF PARTIES**

1. The role or principal objective of each Party is as follows:
  - a. The Multinational Interoperability Council (MIC) provides an operator-led multinational forum for identifying interoperability issues and articulating actions, which will contribute to more effective coalition operations. It is the senior body for coordinating and facilitating resolution of those issues. Initially, work is focused on resolving information interoperability issues, which are considered to be key to coalition operations. Its member nations are: Australia, Canada, France, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States.

b. The mission of ABCA is to optimize interoperability through cooperation and collaboration in the pursuit of standardization and mutual understanding in order to integrate the capabilities of the ABCA Armies. Its member nations are: Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States.

c. The principal objective of the ASCC is to ensure member nations are able to fight side-by-side as airmen in joint and combined operations. Its member nations are: Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States.

d. The AUSCANNZUKUS mission is to foster knowledge sharing to enhance the AUSCANNZUKUS naval Warfighters' ability to successfully complete missions across the spectrum of joint and combined operations. Its member nations are: Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States.

e. The CCEB purpose is to maximize the effectiveness of the Warfighter in combined operations by delivering capabilities, policies, procedures and radio spectrum that optimize information and knowledge sharing. Its member nations are: Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

f. The aim of TTCP is to foster cooperation in the science and technology needed for defence. Cooperation includes collaborative research, sharing of data and facilities, joint trials and experiments, and advanced concept technology demonstrations. TTCP also provides a means of acquainting participating nations with each other's defence R&D programs so that each national program may be adjusted and planned in cognizance of the efforts of the other nations. Its member nations are: Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States

## **ARTICLE II: AIM**

2. The Aim of this Statement of Cooperation is to articulate for all participants in the joint combined and single service organizations the desire and direction of the leadership of the organizations for a coordinated and cooperative approach to issues of mutual interest and concern to two or more of the organizations.

## **ARTICLE III: STATEMENT OF COOPERATION**

3. We ENDORSE this Statement of Cooperation as an enduring symbol of our common desire to develop, maintain and enhance cooperation at all levels between staff of each Party on issues of mutual interest or concern.

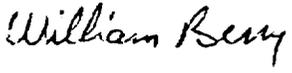
4. ABCA, ASCC, AUSCANNZUKUS, CCEB and TTCP SUPPORT the MIC position as a leader in developing Joint, Combined doctrine and defining the Warfighters C4 requirements.
5. The MIC, ABCA, ASCC, AUSCANNZUKUS and TTCP SUPPORT the CCEB position as a leader in developing multinational C4 systems interoperability.
6. We ENDORSE the conduct of joint activities of mutual benefit to two or more organizations. To this end, we NOTE and ENDORSE the establishment of joint and combined working parties where this is practical and cost effective.
7. We ENCOURAGE coordination of effort to enhance allied interoperability which may reduce unnecessary duplication or nugatory effort on issues of common interest. To this end we encourage the exchange of details of meeting schedules and agendas and encourage representation by other fora when possible.
8. We NOTE and SUPPORT the establishment of regular Multi-fora Meetings of the Washington-based representatives of the Parties to further coordination efforts and to develop and agree an equitable sharing of effort and resources on cooperative activities. These "Multi-Fora coordination meetings" are to occur at least twice annually and will be chaired in rotation amongst the Parties. Meeting reports are to be distributed by the members to their respective national representatives.
9. We AGREE that participation in joint activities is voluntary and that recommendations from joint activities will be available for consideration and implementation if appropriate within the individual organizations.
10. We SUPPORT the exchange of information on ongoing or proposed tasks and AGREE that the outcomes and recommendations from joint cooperative activities will be freely available for consideration, and implementation if appropriate, by all organizations, whether or not they were active participants in the activity.
11. We AGREE that this Statement of Cooperation is non-binding in law.
12. We AGREE that this Statement of Cooperation will enter into force following endorsement of and signature by the designated Representative of each of the Parties. It will remain in force with the mutual agreement of the Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly authorized thereto by their respective Commanders, have signed this agreement on the following dates and places:

**For the ABCA Armies Standardization Program**

Signature:   
Name: P. Barry, Colonel UK AR  
Title: Chief of Staff, ABCA Program Office  
Date Signed: 13<sup>th</sup> July 2003  
Place Signed: Rosslyn, VA

**For The Technical Cooperation Program**

Signature:   
Name: William Berry, US Civ  
Title: TTCP Washington Deputy Representative  
Date Signed: 15 July 2003  
Place Signed: Washington, DC, USA

**For the Air Standardization Coordinating Committee**

Signature:   
Name: P.A. Wade, WGCDR, RAAF  
Title: Chairman, ASCC Management Committee  
Date Signed: 5 Aug 03  
Place Signed: Rosslyn, VA, USA

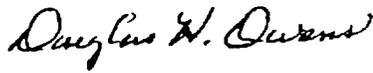
**For the Combined Communications Electronics Board**

Signature:   
Name: S. Shadbolt, Colonel UK RM  
Title: Chairman CCEB Executive Group  
Date Signed: 5 August 2003  
Place Signed: London, UK

**For the AUSCANNZUKUS Naval C4 Supervisory Board**

Signature: [ ]:   
Name: L. Kubow, Colonel US MC  
Title: OPNAV N610  
Date Signed: 27 MAY 03  
Place Signed: Washington, DC

**For the Multinational Interoperability Council**

Signature:   
Name: D. Owens, Colonel US AF  
Title: Chairman MIC Capstone MIWG  
U.S. Joint Staff, Assistant Deputy Director for  
Global Operations, J-3  
Date Signed: 26 Sep 03  
Place Signed: Pentagon  
Washington D.C.