

International Conference

“NATO AND THE BROADER MIDDLE EAST REGION”

co-sponsored by the NATO Public Diplomacy Division & the NATO Defense College

Rome 18 March 2005

(Maynard/Thorn Auditorium, NATO Defense College)

PROGRAMME AGENDA

17 March 2005

- p.m. Arrival of participants in Rome
- 14.30 Hotel registration
- 20.00 Depart by bus to reception
- 20.30 Reception dinner at Villa Madama, hosted by Sen. Giampolo Bettamio,
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
- Return by bus to hotel

18 March 2005

OPENING SESSION

- 08.00 Depart hotel by bus to NATO Defense College
- 09:15 - 09:30 **Introductory remarks by Mr. Jean Fournet, NATO Assistant Secretary General for Public Diplomacy and Lt. Gen. Mark Vankersblich, Commandant of the NATO Defense College**
- 09:30 - 09:45 **Keynote address: by His Excellency Mr. Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, NATO Secretary General**
- 09:45 - 10:15 **First session: "*Security challenges in the Broader Middle East Region*"**
- Speaker:* His Highness Crown Prince Salman bin Hamad al-Khalifa,
Bahrain
- Respondent:* Ambassador James A. Larocco, Director General
Multinational Force & Observers

This session will analyse the major security problems, challenges and threats affecting the region

10:15 - 11:30 Discussion period
11:30 Coffee break
12:00 - 13.00 Discussion period
13:15 Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

15:00 ***Second session: "NATO's Future Role in the Broader Middle East Region"***

Speaker: Mr. Pierre Lellouche, President NATO Parliamentary Assembly
Respondent: Dr. John Chipman, Director International Institute of Strategic Studies (London)

This session will analyse the implementation aspects of ICI

Discussion period

16.45 Coffee break

17.00 Address by Mr. Gianfranco Fini, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy

Continuation of discussion

17.50 **Conference Wrap up by H.E. Jaap de Hoop Scheffer Secretary General of NATO**

18:00 Secretary General's Press Conference

18:15 Participants depart by bus the NATO Defense College to Hotel