

# NATO Land Component Command Conference

by Capt Davide Beneduce



The 29<sup>th</sup> October 2008 saw the Headquarters of the NRDC-ITA host the Land Component Command conference at Ugo Mara Barracks, Milan. The two-day conference, designed to allow discussion on all aspects of NATO was attended by 21 Generals from the various NATO commands and is vital in identifying common goals, problems and policies regarding the NATO Land Component.

The conference was held in the Main Briefing room and was the scene of some useful and forthright debate. The main topics discussed included the forthcoming deployment of NRDC-ITA personnel as augmentées

on ISAF 9/01. All attendees were impressed by the training that the NRDC-ITA personnel were undergoing in order to prepare them for high tempo operations and complimented the Commander on the achievements to date. Further discussion included talks on DJSE Implementation, Strategic Communication by the Former ISAF spokesperson, an ISAF update from the COS JFC Brunssum, the CEDAT Perspective on the different dimensions of Combating Terrorism and a C-IED Update by the ACT C-IED WG. The talks, presentations and debates that they engendered were vital in gaining a common ground and perspective across



all NATO contributing nations and organisations.. Once the talks had been successfully concluded the members of the conference and their wives were able to enjoy the delights of Milan and its rich culture. The visitors were given the opportunity to explore the city and to visit both the Pinacoteca di Brera with its various artists and pictures and the Castello Sforzesco with its famous and ancient history. As well as seeing and experiencing Milan's history and fashion the guests were able to visit Cenacolo Vinciano and the Teatro Alia Scala museum, thus gaining a true flavour of this great city. The conference ended with a Gala dinner on the evening of the 29<sup>th</sup> October hosted by



the Headquarters in the sumptuous surroundings of the Palazzo Cusani.

The conference was a great success and allowed for useful and constructive debate. It also provided the opportunity for exchange of information and to further enhance our multinational relationships.

