CODIFICATION PROJECTS

AC/135 is striving towards thorough modernisation of the format of codification data exchange. In light of this initiative NADEX will be gradually replaced by a state of the art data exchange format, the Extensible Markup Language (XML). This endeavour will enhance codification data with additional information, such as technical drawings and images, will introduce flexibility and simplicity, ease codification data transfer to other logistics systems and facilitate communication with ERP systems, supply chain tools and the industry. It is envisaged that implementation will be completed in 2022 for all NCS community. The transition to XML data exchange will run parallel with traditional NADEX exchange, until all nations assimilate the XML methodology. During this period NSPA will have a vital role in supporting and coordinating this innovative effort in NCS data exchange, however success of this project will depend on national implementation efforts.

AC/135 also approved the development of the Automatic Testing Tool (ATT) by NSPA. ATT will be used to automatically check the compliance of codification applications of Nations aspiring to become Tier 2 Sponsored and to automatically validate major updates of codification software of NATO and Tier 2 Nations.

NMCRL

The first NMCRL DVD was published in February 1994. Following evolution of this product more elements and associated functionality were introduced. As such the NMCRL DVD was phased out in February 2016 and it is now replaced by the downloadable offline version. Apart from that, the NMCRL WEB version is also available as an online product updated on a daily basis.

Future enhancements would focus on linking the Reportable Item Codes (RIC) with NSNs; allowing limited promotional access to basic data with possibility of adding images; addition of characteristics to the NMCRL Raw Data feed and of RICs to NMCRL web for governmental organizations only; last, but not least, continuous preparation towards introduction of NSNs in XML format. Finally, a new subscription website is under preparation with a view to enhancing process time and functionality.

QUALITY FOCUS

The Management Information System (MIS) is under development and subject to changes and modifications. One of these is the addition of KPIs, which will serve as primary metrics in this AC/135 effort to better manage and coordinate the NCS. The MIS Working Group and Panel A define thresholds for KPIs. It is envisaged that this effort will improve situation awareness of data quality produced by nations.

AC/135 SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

The highly successful Sponsorship programme is designed to assist candidate nations on the road to become full members of the NCS community and safeguards the systems and procedures already in place, thus ensuring a continuing high quality of services and information. As of today there are 35 Sponsored nations: 11 at Tier 2 and 24 at Tier 1 with latest addition of Belarus as Tier 1. Tier 2 applications from Argentina, India and Sweden were initially endorsed and interrogation tests are taking place to verify compliance of their national codification systems to NCS disciplines. NSPA in cooperation with NATO HQ is assisting Jordan and Ukraine, both Tier 1 nations, in their effort to build their national codification capability.

PACIFIC AREA CATALOGUING SEMINAR (PACS)

The 15th PACS seminar was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 10-12 May 2016 hosted by the Malaysian NCB with attendees from 10 countries. The Deputy Minister MoD Malaysia Dato’ Sri Mohd Johari bin Baharum opened the PACS seminar and invited participating nations to cooperate effectively in particular on supporting disaster relief activities and be efficient in identifying duplicates. PACS members expressed their interest and need to continue codification forum in a format of education and sharing the best national practices with training modules under Pacific Area Senior Officers Logistics Seminar (PASOLS). Japan preliminary offered to host the next PACS seminar in the autumn of 2017.

NCS COLLEGE

The 2016 NCS College will be held in the Czech Republic in August - September 2016, providing courses for logisticians and codifiers, whereas the 2017 one will be held in US.

WORLD CODIFICATION FORUM

Embarking on success of previous Codification Forums, the 3rd World Codification Forum is envisaged to be held in Melbourne, Australia on 24-25 May 2017 themed as “Connecting Global Logistics Data and Information through Streams of Technology”. This forum will attract government, defence and industry experts interested in codification and ultimately address associated challenges and synergies.