CODIFICATION PROJECTS

The NATO Data Exchange Redesign project (NDER) is the most significant one in the AC/135 effort to rationalise codification data exchange. This revolutionary effort will replace the long-lasting NATO data exchange standard (NADEX) by the Extensible Markup Language (XML) state of the art format. NDER is scheduled to be fully implemented in January 2022 and will facilitate codifiers by dramatically automating the codification process. Currently the NDER working group paves the way for the essential business rules, thus allowing nations and software providers to customise their codification applications. For this reason, all nations were urged to secure the necessary human and financial resources, as well as make provision for software maintenance contracts. These will assure flawless NDER migration and allow provision of adequate technical support. In light of this AC/135 will introduce on 1 October 2018 a one-day NDER training session. Nations are strongly encouraged to attend it, since they will have the opportunity to address a plethora of NDER topics and digest possible repercussions in national legacy systems and ERPs. AC/135 gives the absolute highest priority to this pivotal for the future of the NCS project and is sturdily committed to a flawless implementation by establishing a two-year testing period.

NMCRL

The NATO Master Catalogue of References for Logistics (NMCRL) is the largest defence logistics database on a worldwide basis. It is available as an online product updated on a daily basis (NMCRL WEB) and as a downloadable offline version. Apart from the aforementioned versions, the NMCRL Web Lite introduces a three-month free trial access period in order to reveal the potential of this product to prospective users. NMCRL is constantly enhanced with advanced functionalities and with novel data elements in order to provide ultimate customer satisfaction.

CODIFICATION TRAINING CURRICULUM

Training is perceived as the mainstay of the AC/135 effort to promote the NCS and preserve its relevance. As such Belgium, France and the Republic of Korea keep on developing training material in the form of Curriculum, Syllabus and E-learning modules. These intensify NCS awareness, endorse the concept of Codification and underscore its merits. An associated effort is under way to translate the E-learning modules in Portuguese. Besides that, the first AC/135 training course specifically destined for National Codification Bureau Directors will be held in November 2018.

AC/135 SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

The Sponsorship programme is assisting candidate nations on their way to become members of the NCS, thus benefit from the advantages that the system introduces. As of today 33 Sponsored nations exist: 13 at Tier 2 and 20 at Tier 1. Compliance tests of the Indian and the UAE applications were successfully completed in light of their request for Tier 2. Testing of the Ukrainian application has commenced, whereas Indonesia and Colombia are scheduled to be tested during 2018. In light of increasing Tier 2 requests AC/135 tasked NSPA to develop the Automatic Testing Tool (ATT). The ATT will be made available in 2019 in response to the need for testing Codification applications of nations aspiring for Tier 2 in an ultimately proficient and automatic manner.

NCB COLLEGE

The 2018 NCB College was successfully held at NSPA in cooperation with instructors from Canada and Spain. This year the College provided 18 participants from 12 nations with comprehensive education on NATO codification and its role into the overall logistics process. The 2019 NCB College will be held at NSPA in June 2019.

NORDEFCO

NORDEFCO Cooperation Area Armament Working Group NATO Codification provides tailor made training services to Nordic nations. The next advanced codification training course will be held in Stockholm, Sweden, in November 2018, whereas the invitation for Baltic States to participate in the advance training and NORDEFCO cooperation is still open.

PACIFIC AREA CATALOGUING SEMINAR

The 2018 PACS meeting was held in Sydney, Australia, on 8-10 May 2018 with 34 delegates in attendance. PACS is focusing on establishing Codification synergies within the Pacific region based on the NCS and also functions as an open education forum aiming to augment codification though collective training efforts. Mr. Kenworthy (Australia) was elected as the PACS Chairman.

SOUTH AMERICAN CODIFICATION SEMINAR

SACS is committed to promote the significance of Codification in South America, both within the government and the industry, as well as intensify cooperative Logistics and Codification efforts in order to enhance the defence products base. Efforts are in progress to maintain current SACS structure, since a number of nations decided to withdraw from this forum.