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August 2007

Appendix A: Conceptual Programme for the 1st ACoC

Dear Commandant

1ST AFRICAN CONFERENCE OF COMMANDANTS (ACoC): 05 – 09 NOVEMBER 2007

1. During the visit of the South African National College (SANWC) delegation to the African Strategic Studies Centre, there was a mutual interest that a representative(s) to the ACoC would be of a great advantage. This letter is a follow up of the initial correspondence and seeks to further inform you about the arrangements of the 1st ACoC. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

2. The theme of the conference is “***Developing and Transforming Education in the Military, a Contribution to African Security***”. This theme indicates the challenging work ahead of the Colleges as well thought-out and timeous adjustments of academic curricula, in order to bring them in line with the very latest experience acquired in the African Battle Space.

3. As indicated in the previous letter, the aim of the conference is to ‘Enhance harmonization, interoperability, commonality, standardisation and cooperation between African Staff Colleges in order to contribute to Joint, Multinational and multi agency cross governmental African Standby Force (ASF) Peace Support Operations.

4. The objectives of the conference will be as follows:

- a. To contribute to African Security through the Development and Transformation of Education and Training in the Military Environment.
- b. To facilitate and improve understanding and general coordination amongst the African Staff Colleges in order to develop the African Standby Force (ASF) Concept.
- c. To evaluate the feasibility of transformation in the current operating environment.
- d. To explore the commonality of the curricula with the intention to facilitate the Combined Joint African Exercise (CJAX).
- e. To develop co-operation amongst African Staff Colleges by enhancing:
 - i. Benchmarking.
 - ii. College Curriculum best practice.
 - iii. DS Exchange programmes.

- iv. Academic Accreditation.
 - v. To explore the feasibility of an annual Combined Joint African Exercise (CJAX).
 - vi. CJAX-developed from lessons learned from the UK Joint Senior Command Staff College (JSCSC) Combined Joint European Exercise (CJEX) - a model for CJAX?
 - vii. The African Conference of Commandants (ACoC) would thereafter be the primary facilitator and driver of an established CJAX
5. The following high profile members are envisaged to address the conference:
- a. Ministry of Defence official will open the conference.
 - b. Chief of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF).
 - c. A representative from the African Union (AU).
 - d. A representative from the Southern African Development Community (SADC).
 - e. Commandant of the NATO Defence Staff College.
 - f. Academic persons.
6. All participating Commandants will be required to do a 20 minutes presentation on the overview of their colleges.
7. Administrative Arrangements. The following admin arrangements should be taken into consideration:
- a. Commandant and a lead member of your staff will be fully sponsored for accommodation and meals. **Should you wish to bring an additional member as part of your staff, your country will incur such costs.** Your Defence Attaché is welcomed to attend the Conference proceedings (as an observer) including all formal and social functions.
 - b. Transport. You will be accommodated at Maropeng Hotel for the duration of the conference. Directions to Maropeng Hotel will be provided in due course. Movement within the country will be by luxury VIP coaches.
 - c. Gifts. During the Formal Guest Evening, an exchange of gifts is envisaged between the Commandant of the South African National War College (SANWC) and visiting Commandants.
 - d. Language. All deliberations will be facilitated in English.
 - e. Dietary Preferences. All dietary requirements will be catered for, eg. Halaal and vegetarian.
8. Social. There will be social activities during the duration of the conference. See appendix A for a conceptual programme. A detailed programme will be sent later.

9. Your co-operation and support in this regard will be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

(BRIG GEN W. NKONYENI)
CHIEF OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL DEFENCE FORCE: GEN

APPENDIX A TO
1ST ACoC LETTER
DATED AUG 07

Conceptual Programme for the 1st ACoC Conference

S/No	Date	Activity/Event	Remarks
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
1	Mon - 05 Nov 07	Arrival Cultural Activity. Visit to the Cradle of Humankind Meet and Greet in the Evening	Airport to Maropeng Hotel Dress: Casual with comfortable shoes (slippery surface).
2	Tue – 06 Nov 07	Morning Session-Guest Speakers presentations Afternoon Session - Conference Function. Formal Guest Evening	Delivery of papers on relevant topics. Dress: or National Dress
3	Wed – 07 Nov 07	Full Conference DayDiscussions by Commandants Free Evening	Dress: Own Programme
4	Thurs – 08 Nov 07	Visit SANWC Visit to Ex Tlhonthori Visit to PMTC Press Conference Special Cocktail Lunch Afternoon. Cultural visit in Maropeng Free Evening	Drive to SANWC. Drive to the SA Army College. Briefings at the PMTC. Local, internal (DOD) and international media. Chiefs of Arms of Services, Chief Directors Force Preparation and other members of the SA National Defence Force Dress: Casual Comfortable Own Programme
5	Fri – 09 Nov 07	Departure	