Request for additional inputs on:

- Studying and developing future generation logistic systems in order to streamline supply chain solutions.

MS’ forces will need to deploy scalable ‘plug-and-play’ logistic control systems to areas of operations where local airbases, ports or other logistic hubs systems may be damaged, destroyed, insecure or unavailable. The possible leverage of commercial sector experience in optimising complex global supply chains is an aspect to be considered.

Q1. What kind of approach is industry following in the development of future generation logistic systems? Does industry consider further developing already existing systems by connecting to a network or to develop a new logistic system considering the imminent challenges like digitization, protection of data?

Q2. How can a future generation logistic system support streamline military supply chain solutions?

Q3. How does industry assess the synergies between civilian and military in future logistic systems? Especially, regarding the supply chain solution and warehousing, but also other elements of industry concerns.
• Exploring benefits of cooperation with commercial logistic operators.

Situation awareness on the whereabout within a logistic supply chain is state of the art for most of the commercial logistic operators. Within the military command and control process (C2) the real time situation awareness has eminent meaning for all involved level of military leadership. Barcodes, RFID and GPS emitter in combination with the proper software application enable commercial logistic operators to Track and Trace (T&T) goods within the supply chain. For most of the European forces is T&T currently not or not coherent established. Cross loading among EU Member States with a permanently situation awareness is not possible yet.

Q1. Is cross loading among commercial logistic operators possible nowadays?

Q2. What standards are used or established therefore?

Q3. Is for this dedicated capability a civil forum established?

Q4. Do commercial logistic operators cooperate with military forces by using T&T?

Military Forces use various Enterprise Recourse Planning Software (ERP) for logistic operations. A few have national wise developed ERP solutions and others have commercial of the shelf solutions established. The exchange and hand over of information or data from one national ERP to another national ERP is not possible yet. The communication between the NATO application LOGFAS and national ERP’s is currently not possible either. The lack of interface definition causes this fact.

Q1. Do commercial logistic operators exchange data information by having an interface defined and established in between their ERP’s?

Q2. What standards are used or established therefore?

Q3. Is for this dedicated capability a civil forum established?

Q4. Do commercial logistic operators cooperate with military forces by using T&T?
Warehousing for military goods and equipment is a military domain and therefore military warehouses are mainly operated by military personnel, within military faciality, using military equipment and following military regulations. The connection to road, railway, seaports and airports are not always ensured. Civil – military warehouse cooperation or even multinational warehouse cooperation is not state of the art.

Q1. Do some commercial logistic operators have a civil-military warehouse cooperation?

Q2. What are the experiences operating such a cooperation?

• Ensuring energy supply via harmonisation of procedure regarding receiving, storing and distributing of Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants (POL) and development of new energy solutions.

Energy supply for all military assets in use is a permanently challenge for the logistic supply chain particularly on missions. Being autonomous from such energy supply chains is an operational benefit for military forces.

Q1. Does industry have a dedicated forum established for this topic?

Q2. Do you have basic documents (similar to a concept) which serve as a basis?

Q3. What is the state of the art for such technical solutions?

• Reducing logistic footprint thanks to additive and advanced manufacturing

Additive Manufacturing (AM) is a technology with a great potential also for military forces. AM enables forces on mission becoming independent from warehousing and supply chains. Spare Part supply in peace time is affected as well. Military Forces expect that AM will have an impact on future Spare Parts concepts for new armament procurements and it should have an impact on Spare Parts concepts on currently used military assets.

Q1. What is the industrial approach for AM in terms of Spare Parts?
Q2. What are the technological possibilities and where are the technical boundaries nowadays?

Q3. Has AM already exhausted its technical potential?