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**Javier Solana,
EU High Representative for CFSP,
announces the appointment
of the Chief Executive and deputy Chief Executive
of the European Defence Agency**

Javier Solana, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy, announced today the appointment of Nick Witney as Chief Executive of the European Defence Agency and Hilmar Linnenkamp as deputy Chief Executive. The decision follows the unanimous endorsement by the Agency's Steering Board (Defence Ministers of participating Member States) of a proposal by High Representative Solana, who is the Head of the Agency.

High Representative Solana made the following comments :

"I am delighted by the decision to appoint Nick Witney and Hilmar Linnenkamp to these key posts. They have done an outstanding job in the Agency Establishment Team in laying the Agency's foundations. A big job awaits the Agency. The need to bolster Europe's military capabilities to match our aspirations is more urgent than ever. And so, too, the need for us to respond better to the needs of our defence industries. Given the right support from Member States, this Agency can make a huge difference. The appointment of its Chief Executive and deputy - the Steering Board's first decision - is a good start."

In conformity with the Council Joint Action establishing the Agency, the appointments are for three years. The Chief Executive acts under the authority of the Head of the Agency and in accordance with the decisions of the Steering Board. He is the head of the Agency's staff and is responsible in particular for ensuring the implementation of the Agency's work programme, preparing the Agency's draft annual budget to be submitted to the Steering Board and implementing that budget, as well as for the day-to-day administration of the Agency.

Nick Witney was the leader of the Agency Establishment Team created last January. Dr. Linnenkamp was a member of that team.

Attachments:

- CVs of Nick Witney and Hilmar Linnenkamp
- Background on the Agency

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

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Nick Witney joined the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office on leaving Corpus Christi College, Oxford (where he read Classics). After a spell on the Anglo-Soviet desk in London, he spent four years in the Middle East, the first two as an Arabic language student in Beirut and Amman, and subsequently in the British Embassy in Baghdad. He then spent four years as Private Secretary to the British Ambassador in Washington DC. Returning to London he worked on the Common Agricultural Policy in the European Community Department, before taking a secondment to the Ministry of Defence.

After a spell working on overseas defence policy in Africa and the Far East, he transferred to the Army Plans and Budgeting Division. From there he was promoted to be Director of Operations in the Saudi Armed Forces Office, responsible for the Al Yamamah defence sales to Saudi Arabia programme. In 1990, he became Director of Nuclear Policy and Security, and after three years was rewarded with a year's sabbatical at RAND, in Santa Monica, California. Returning in 1994, he spent the next two years running the privatisation of the Ministry of Defence's married quarters housing stock. Between 1996 and 1998 he was the UK MOD's Director General, Management and Organisation, with a substantial involvement in the Strategic Defence Review.

In 1998 he was appointed Assistant Under-Secretary (Systems), a post which converted the following year into Director-General, Equipment, within the UK MOD's new Equipment Capability Customer organisation (a product of the Smart Procurement initiative). His responsibilities included the Ministry's forward Equipment Plan, and defence industrial policy.

In 2002 he became the UK MOD's Director-General, International Security Policy: particular policy responsibilities included NATO, the EU, and Missile Defence.

On 1 February 2004 he was seconded to the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, to head the Team working on the establishment of a European Defence Agency.

Interests include rugby football, sailing and modern fiction.

Dr. Hilmar Linnenkamp

Born 1944 in Koblenz, Germany

Studied Economics, Sociology and Political Sciences at Bonn University:

- M.A. in Economics 1967
- Ph.D. in Sociology 1971

Professional Experience:

02/2001 -	MoD, Directorate General of Armaments, International Affairs
07/2000 – 01/2001	MoD, Policy Planning Staff
1999 – 06/2000	Director, Secretariat of the Commission on the Future of the Bundeswehr
1991-1999	Director, Department of Social Sciences Federal Armed Forces Command and General Staff College, Hamburg
1995/1996	NATO Defense College, Rome
1988-1991	Lecturer for Conflict Research/International Relations, ibidem
1977-1987	MoD, Policy Planning Staff
1983-1984	Resident Fellow, Institute for East-West Security Studies, New York, N.Y.
1969-1977	MoD, Army Staff, Planning Division
1967-1969	Assistant Professor, University of Bonn

Background

THE EUROPEAN DEFENCE AGENCY

On 12 July, the Council adopted a Joint Action to establish a European Defence Agency.

➤ **Purpose and role**

The Agency is designed "to support the Member States in their effort to improve European defence capabilities in the field of crisis management and to sustain the ESDP as it stands now and develops in the future". More specifically, the Agency is ascribed four functions, relating to: (a) defence capabilities development; (b) armaments co-operation; (c) the European defence technological and industrial base and defence equipment market; (d) research and technology.

These functions all relate to improving Europe's defence performance, by promoting coherence in place of fragmentation.

A more systematic and comprehensive approach to identifying ESDP's capability needs will contribute to better-defined future requirements on which collaborations - in armaments or R&T or the operational domain - can be built.

More collaborations will in turn provide opportunities for industrial restructuring and progress towards the continental-scale demand and market which industry needs.

On this basis, the Agency's tasks will be:

- to work for a more comprehensive and systematic approach to defining and meeting the capability needs of ESDP (supporting, for example, the "Headline Goal 2010" initiative);
- to promote equipment collaborations, both to contribute to defence capabilities and as catalysts for further restructuring of the European defence industry.
- to promote European defence-relevant R&T, as vital both to a healthy defence technological and industrial base and to defining and satisfying future capability requirements. This will involve pursuing collaborative use of national defence R&T funds, in the context of a European policy which identifies priorities.

The Agency's "comparative advantage" should be its ability to comprehend all these agendas, and relate them so as to realise their synergies. Its special position should allow it to develop uniquely cogent analyses and proposals across the range of its activities.

➤ **Status**

The EDA is an Agency of the European Union. High Representative Solana is Head of the Agency, chairman of the Steering Board, its decision-making body composed of Defence Ministers of participating Member States and the Commission. The Steering Board will act under the Council's authority and within the framework of guidelines issued by the Council.

➤ **Stakeholders**

The Agency must face outwards. Its main stakeholders will be the Member States participating in the Agency, the Council bodies and the Commission, as well as OCCAR, LoI, WEAG/WEAO. NATO and non-EU States will be important interlocutors also.

➤ **Steering Board**

The Agency's Steering Board – meeting regularly at the level of Defence Ministers chaired by the SG/HR – will embody the close relationship of Member States and their Agency. The Steering Board can be expected to meet at Ministerial level at least twice yearly. It is also envisaged that the Steering Board will meet regularly at Representatives level, addressing agendas focussed variously on the competences of National Armaments Directors; of national research directors; of national capability planners; and policy directors.

➤ **Staff**

The build-up of the Agency will be paced by recruitment of staff. An adequate cadre (about 25 personnel) could be in place by the end of 2004, building up in 2005 to the proposed initial steady total of around 80 personnel. This would comprise a top team, a Corporate Services branch and four directorates (Capabilities, R&T, Armaments and Defence Industry/Market).

➤ **Budget**

The Joint Action establishing the Agency provides for a general budget, to be contributed by Member States participating in the Agency on a GNI-key, covering the obvious categories of operating costs (personnel, infrastructure, etc.) The Agency will also have funds for research such as operational analysis and feasibility studies, and may receive "ad hoc" budgets from Member States for specific projects and programmes.

The budget for 2004, which will be mainly for staff-related costs, is under € 2 million. The 2005 budget will come to the Steering Board for decision in the autumn. Present estimates foresee a general budget of around € 25 million (including around € 10 million in non-recurring setting up costs).
