

Roland VAN REYBROECK  
Director Cooperation Planning & Support, European Defence Agency



Brigadier General Roland Van Reybroeck accumulated 20 years of experience in aeronautics and collaborative programmes, in both a military and an industrial environment.

He started his career as F-16 Maintenance Officer with the Belgian Air Force in Kleine Brogel (1984-1986), where he returned later on, to become Maintenance Squadron Commander (1996-1998).

As the Air Force representative in the SABCA aerospace company in Brussels (1989-1991) supervising maintenance and production contracts, he also ensured government surveillance of the contractor's participation in the European space programme, by delegation from the Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (France).

He went on to become F-16 Fleet Manager (1991-1995) and then F-16 Programme Manager (2002-2004), representing Belgian Defence in various international fora addressing cooperative logistic support, technical management and capability development, in the scope of the F-16 Multinational Fighter Programme.

In between, as Training Aircraft Programme Manager (1999-2002), he was instrumental in extending the longstanding French-Belgian cooperation on the Alpha Jet Programme to Portugal. In the same capacity he contributed to creating the conditions that allowed the founding of the bi-national Advanced Jet Training School in Cazaux, France.

Later on, as Senior Manager at the NATO Helicopter Management Agency (2010-2013) he led the reorganization of the agency, established the NH90 in-service-support strategy which was adopted by the NAHEMO Nations and developed their cooperation with Finland, Norway, Sweden and Australia.

Roland Van Reybroeck further developed his competencies and experience as Head of Office of two Belgian Chiefs of Defence (2006-2010), gaining a privileged insight into all aspects of defence policy and a thorough understanding of the opportunities and challenges of international defence cooperation. As Head of Governance & Policy Support to the Chief of Defence (2013-2015) he and his team prepared the development of a comprehensive long-term vision for Belgian Defence.

Earlier in his career Roland Van Reybroeck also completed a tour as teaching assistant in the Department of Applied Mechanics of the Belgian Royal Military Academy (1986-1989) and lectured at several educational establishments in the field of industrial engineering and pilot training. Furthermore, he was appointed lead-auditor for accreditation audits of ISO-9000 certifying organisations by the Belgian Ministry of Economic Affairs (1991-1998).

Roland Van Reybroeck graduated from the Belgian Royal Military Academy, as Master of Science in Engineering, specialising in transport mechanics and armament ballistics (1983). He also holds a Master in aeronautics and astronautics from Ghent University (1991).

Brigadier General Roland Van Reybroeck was awarded the distinction of Commander in the Order of the Crown of the Kingdom of Belgium.