The deployment of European forces to areas of operation anywhere on the globe is one of the priorities of the EU Capability Development Plan. In this respect there is a continuous need for both seaborne and airborne transport capabilities making this a recognized field for the pooling and sharing of European capabilities.

I am aware of the significant work that the Athens Multinational Sealift Coordination Centre (AMSCC) has undertaken, especially in order to address the shortage of Strategic Sealift. To this end, I see potential for synergies between AMSCC and EDA’s work within the framework of the EU’s Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP).

The AMSCC and EDA already enjoy significant interaction. Valuable examples of this interaction could be found in cross-participation of our staff to respective activities and events as well as upon official visits of my staff to the AMSCC.

Acknowledging the important contribution the AMSCC is making to increase the Strategic Sealift capabilities for troops deployed in theatres of operations by favouring multinational cooperation, I hereby propose the establishment of an effective liaison between EDA and AMSCC, based on the following key principles:

a) The objective of the liaison between EDA and AMSCC will focus on activities of mutual interest, such as studies, seminars, projects and programmes.

b) The identification of potential new activities that would support Member States in developing their Strategic Sealift capabilities will be one of our common objectives.

c) Full transparency on the administration of activities will be in accordance with the EDA and AMSCC internal processes, procedures and rules respectively.
The handling and release of information and documents will be undertaken in accordance with the respective rules and regulations of EDA and AMSCC. Any intellectual or industrial property rights, including any documentation, data, or technical information provided will remain vested in their respective owners.

EDA and AMSCC will nominate Points of Contact to facilitate cooperation.

This Exchange of Letters does not imply any financial responsibilities on EDA or AMSCC. The delineation of potential funding responsibilities will be defined in the respective implementing documents for specific events, services or activities as appropriate. In general, each organisation will fund its own share of co-operative endeavours from its own resources.

Areas of common interest for the liaison would start with the following:

- Sealift Strategic transport assets
- Multi-Modal Movement and Transport
- Interoperability

I am confident that, through our liaison, EDA and AMSCC can bring a significant added value to Member States through improved exchange of information, avoidance of unnecessary duplication of effort and common support of activities that bring added-value.

If the above principles for liaison are acceptable to you, I propose that this letter, together with your affirmative reply, will constitute our common understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Jorge Domecq
TO: Mr Jorge Domecq, Chief Executive of the European Defence Agency

SUBJECT: Liaison Between the EDA and the AMSCC

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Athens Multinational Sealift Coordination Centre I have the honour to confirm that we agree with the letter Reference EDA 4 November 2016. The liaison between EDA and AMSCC will be effective upon the date of receipt of the present letter.

Please accept my sincere regards,

Commander Gerasimos Pavlatos HN

Director AMSCC