



NATO SPECIAL OPERATIONS HEADQUARTERS

Air Development Programme – 2017

NOTE: www.nshq.nato.int provides up-to-date details on listed courses and events, as well as a library with unclassified documents, publications, manuals, references and points of contact. Full access is controlled and requires a sign-up procedure.

1. **Role:** The Air Development Programme (ADP) is the primary point of direction and coordination for all NATO Special Operations Air related activities, to provide a vehicle for accelerating and synchronizing Alliance efforts to enhance capability, capacity and interoperability of SOF Air. Establishes, maintains and supports NATO SOF Air Advocacy, Training, Education, Planning, Doctrine, Standardization, Exercises and Evaluations programs based on validated operational requirements and standards, as well as on Force Planning/Generation standards. Reports to NSHQ's Deputy Chief of Staff Education & Doctrine.
2. **Principal Duties:**
 - a. Promoting, analysing, reporting and supporting the development of NATO SOF Air capabilities and C2 for NSHQ and ACO. Under COM NSHQ's authority acts in support of, or in coordination with other NATO bodies, national authorities and other institutions to provide expertise and advisory, in particular within the NATO Defence Planning Process.
 - b. Advising the DCoS E&D and, when needed, other NSHQ branches (CG, CAG, J3, J5) on the training and readiness requirements of NATO SOF Air in war and peace, as well as on engagement strategies to accelerate its development. Also, conducting own operations, actions and activities to support the engagements.
 - c. In support of the nominated Capability Area Facilitator, creating and maintaining a NATO SOF Aviation Capability Development Roadmap, in order to analyze, inform and report on the implementation of NATO Defence Planning Process capability targets.
 - d. Supervising, conducting and supporting venues (committees, working groups, workshops, conferences, etc.) and connected studies, related to NATO SOF Air/Aviation development. Most relevant ones are:
 - i. Special Operations Capability Working Group (SOCWG)
 - ii. Yearly NATO SOF Air & Aviation Conference (at NSHQ)
 - e. Conducting education and training needs/requirements analysis based on NATO SOF Air operations and Force Planning/generation.
 - f. Developing NATO SOF Air training and education curriculum and delivering air-themed training & education events within NATO Special Operations School curriculum. Current courses/events:
 - i. Special Operations Air Planning Course

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- ii. Special Operations Air Mission Commander Course
 - iii. Special Operations Air Task Group Course
 - iv. Special Operations Air Operations Center Course
 - v. NATO SOF Air Mission Challenge
- g. Coordinating with NSHQ NATO Special Operations School (NSOS) for the integration of air elements in other courses' content, most notably:
 - i. SOF Evaluation Course
 - ii. Special Operations Component Command Staff Course
 - iii. Special Operations Component Command Plans Courses
- h. Supporting national development of training, academic and simulation venues, based on NATO doctrine and standards, in order to provide SOF Air-specific content.
 - i. Developing NATO SOF Air doctrine and standards publications.
- j. Coordinating with NSHQ Doctrine Director for the integration of air capabilities into doctrine and planning processes.
- k. Developing procedures and literature for assessment and evaluation of NATO SOF Air/Aviation elements (SOATG, SOATU and component-level C2 elements) to certify them for NATO SOF operations.
- l. Developing and conducting scenarios for flying or simulated exercises and training opportunities in support of the development of NATO SOF Air/Aviation capabilities.
- m. In coordination with the NSHQ J7, establishing, implementing and maintaining the methodology for assessment, evaluation and certification of NATO SOF Air/Aviation elements for Allied operational requirements.
- n. In coordination with the NSHQ J7, supporting NATO and national exercises with SOF Air expertise.
- o. providing subject matter expertise in support of the NSHQ Special Operations Component Command CORE, or other NSHQ requirements.