

**BUREAU FOR INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE CO-ORDINATION  
BUREAU DE COORDINATION LINGUISTIQUE INTERNATIONALE**



ATHENS, GREECE

**Minutes of the Steering Committee**

22 June – 26 June 2008

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Belgium	Dr. Marc Isselé
Bulgaria	Mrs. Olga Nikolova Sotirova
Canada	LCol W. E. Amirault
Czech Republic	Col. Ladislav Chaloupsky
Denmark	LtC. Bornholdt Andersen
Estonia	Cap. Kea Latte
France	Lt. Col. Henrot Luc
Germany	Mr. Rainer Geers
Greece	Lt Col. Othon Kypriotakis
Hungary	Dr. Marta Nabradi
Italy	CDR Emiliano Coli
Latvia	Ms. Inese Kaive
Lithuania	Mrs. Genovaite Laugaliene
Netherlands	drs. Gerard Seinhorst
Norway	Mrs. Marit Lobben
Poland	LTC Jacek Danysz
Portugal	Mr. Francesco Sousa Marques
Romania	LTC Dragos Haralambie
Slovak Republic	Ing. Milan Jakubec
Slovenia	Ms. Melita Djuric
Spain	LTC José M. Lamela Herrera
Turkey	Lt. Col. Mesut Yalcin
United Kingdom	Commander Andrew Cropley
United States	Col. Stephen M. Jones, COL Sue Ann Sandusky

**OBSERVERS**

Austria	Brig. Gen. Horst Walther
Croatia	Mr. Djemal Kadrić
Georgia	1stLt Nato Jiadze
Finland	Mr. Risto Kuokkanen
Sweden	Ms. Ingrida Leimanis
NATO HQ (IS)	Mr. Gordon Monaghan

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NATO HQ (IMS)  
NATO SHAPE  
NATO E3A Component  
NATO ACT

Mr. Philip Turner  
Mr. Ian Jones, Mr Mike Adubato  
Ms. Laura De Odorico  
LTC Jacek Pawlewicz

**BILC SECRETARIAT**

Outgoing Chair  
Chair  
Outgoing Secretary  
Secretary  
Outgoing Secretary for PfP  
Deputy Secretary

Dr. Ray Clifford  
Dr. Richard D. Monaghan  
Ms. Peggy Garza  
Ms. Julie Dubeau  
Mr. Keith Wert  
Ms. Jana Vasilj-Begovic

**AGENDA**

***Item 1: Introductions and Recognition of the New Heads of Delegations***

Introductions were made and the Chairman (CM) welcomed the new heads of delegations.

***Item 2: Action Items from the Last BILC Conference***

- a. Canada was asked to finalize the revised section of the BILC Constitution and Rules of Procedure.
  - The aforementioned task was accomplished
- a. The BILC Secretary requested the following Voluntary National Contributions (VCN): BAT listening items by 15 July; additional reading items to increase the item pool (ongoing request); NATO topics and tasks for the writing test (ongoing request.)
  - The aforementioned is a continuous process.
- c. The CM will brief the NTG on the proposed STANAG 6001, Edition 3 and will forward the reformatted document for coordination and approval.
  - Presentation to NTG and reformatting of document was accomplished. Coordination with NSA on STANAG 6001 Edition 3 is working.

***Item 3. NTG/JSSG Priorities for BILC***

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- a. Conferences and Seminars.
  - The Professional Seminar will be held 6-10 October 2008 in Bucharest Romania. The theme is: “Assessment: From Programmes to Profiles...Exchanging Best Practices”.
  - The Annual Conference will be held in Rome, 7-11 June 2009.
  - Future Events:
    - i. Conferences: 2010 Turkey, 2011 Lithuania
    - ii. Professional Seminars: 2009 Denmark, 2010 Bulgaria
- b. Continue conducting Language Training Assessments and Language Testing Seminars.
  - Two BILC teams performed collaborative language programme assessments in Georgia and Romania. The Secretariat extended appreciation to Canada, Sweden and the United Kingdom for contributing experts to serve on these teams.
  - Three Language Testing Seminars were conducted in Garmisch, Germany at the Marshall Center. The Secretariat thanked Canada, Denmark, Italy, Slovakia, Hungary, the Netherlands, Romania and the USA for supporting these seminars with facilitators.
- c. Complete the development of the BILC Benchmark Advisory Test (BAT) and begin test administrations to assist nations with standardising their national STANAG 6001 tests against the benchmark.
  - Dr. Clifford provided a summary of the effort, which is to be completed in October 2008, and later, in plenary session, he gave a detailed presentation. He also asked the countries to estimate how many tests would be requested were the country to use the BAT. The results indicated a strong demand from the nations and partners.
- d. Submit the STANAG 6001, Edition 3 to the NATO Standardisation Agency
  - Dr. Clifford introduced this subject and opened the floor to ensuing discussion. The USA motioned to pass the STANAG 6001 Edition 3 and Canada seconded. The motion passed with two abstentions.
- e. Investigate the possibility of running Central NATO courses aimed at teaching Military English to English instructors drawn from ISAF Contributing Nations.
  - The aforementioned was accomplished by the Conference Study Group 4, “Harmonizing NATO Operational Courses”. Specific recommendations were made,

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and they will be presented to the NATO Training Group Joint Services Sub Group by the BILC Secretariat in October.

***Item 4. Additional Business***

The SHAPE representative raised a question concerning the certification of language proficiency for assignment to NATO positions by tests other than National STANAG 6001 tests. He asked if BILC should certify certain commercial tests as appropriate to use. In the ensuing discussion the idea was generally defined as a receiving unit's responsibility rather than an area for BILC certification. No consensus developed to have BILC involved in certifying commercial tests.

***Item 5. BILC Secretariat Transfer***

The incoming BILC Chairman, Dr Monaghan, outlined the structure of the new Canadian led secretariat. It will consist of a Chairman, himself; a Secretary, Ms Julie Dubeau; a Deputy Secretary, Ms. Jana Vasilj-Begovic; and two Associate Secretaries, Ms Peggy Garza for Testing Programmes and Mr Keith Wert for Language Programme Assessment. The Steering Committee was enthusiastically supportive.

***Item 6. Vote of thanks to the Host Nation***

The Chairman expressed appreciation to the Greek Organizational Committee and the BILC Steering Committee members agreed wholeheartedly.

Julie J. Dubeau  
BILC Secretary