



PARP - PLANNING AND REVIEW PROCESS

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

GENERAL

- This document aims to provide a general description of the Planning and Review Process (PARP).
- Originally launched in 1995, under NATO's Partnership for Peace initiative, the Planning and Review Process (PARP) was envisaged as a tool to encourage Partners to develop more interoperable and capable forces that could participate in NATO led-operations, trainings and exercises. However, PARP has since moved beyond this initial focus to also address efforts to transform and reform armed forces and related security organisations. Following a review of NATO's partnerships policy in April 2011, the North Atlantic Council agreed to open participation in PARP to all other non-PfP partners on a voluntary and case-by-case basis subject to its approval.
- Participation in the PARP is optional; each partner can determine the pace and the extent of its involvement in the process.

THE AIMS OF PARP

- PARP aims to promote the development of forces and capabilities by partners that are able to operate alongside Allies in crisis response operations and other activities

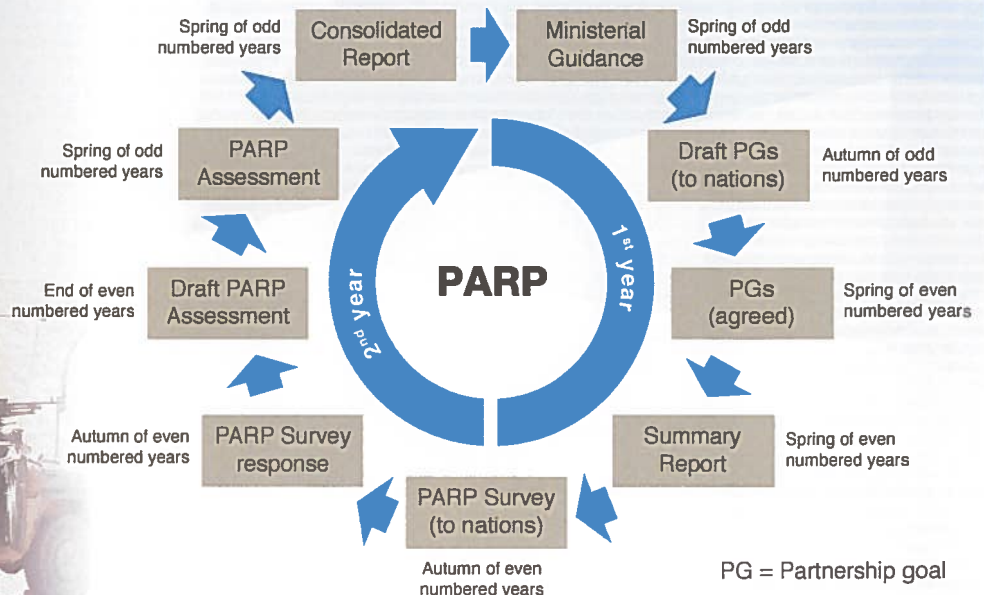
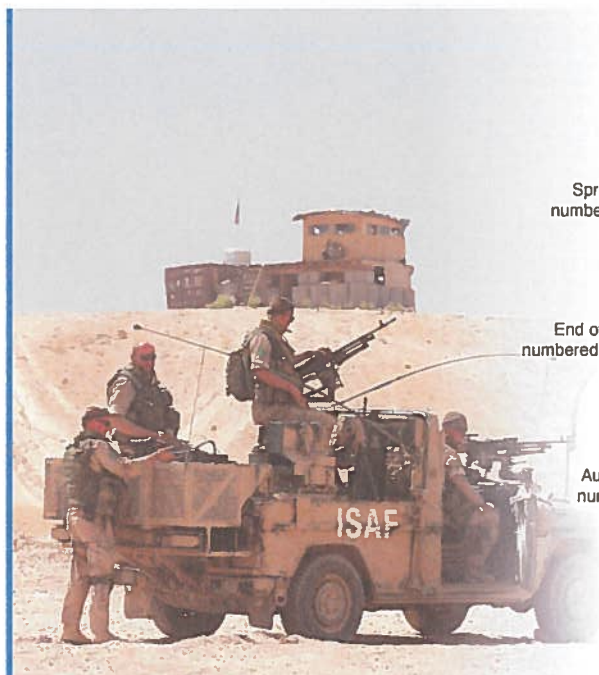
intended to promote security and stability. PARP also plays an important role in promoting transformation and reform in the defence and related security sector. It also offers substantial transparency in defence planning.

BENEFITS FROM PARP

- The PARP supports development of interoperable and capable partner forces necessary to contribute to NATO-led operations and enhance the overall effectiveness of the deployed forces. For partners, the planning targets developed within the PARP are a key element of a roadmap for partners to follow in their efforts to better participate in international operations and, where appropriate, to transform their armed forces and other related organisations, including to support wider reform efforts.

HOW DOES PARP WORK?

- In principle, PARP is based on a biennial cycle which defines priority areas, elaborates mutually agreed planning targets, identifies the steps required to meet those targets and jointly reviews progress in implementing them.



DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIP GOALS

- The Partnership Goals (planning targets) developed within the PARP, and agreed jointly between Allies and the partner concerned, are tailored to the needs of each individual partner nation. Partners are encouraged to propose areas to be addressed by Partnership Goals, noting that it remains for each individual partner to decide whether a particular Partnership Goal should form part of its agreed package. The development of individual tailored Partnership Goal packages takes account of progress achieved in the implementation of previous Partnership Goals and potential support to the different other cooperation mechanisms and processes in which partners take part.
- Partnership Goals can also, where relevant, aim to develop appropriate partners' capabilities and promote transparency in relation to possible contributions to rapid response units. This applies particularly to the NATO Response Force in which some partners are already participating. Any such and all contributions will be subject to political decision. The Partnership Goals can play an important role in establishing the standards that are to be achieved to prepare units for this role. Partnership Goals and the associated NATO standards can also be used, where appropriate, to support the development of appropriate capabilities while enhancing interoperability in the context of European Union Battlegroups. Such Partnership Goals also facilitate the use of similar standards in NATO and EU rapid response units as an enhancement

to the key principles of mutual reinforcement and complementarity in the development NATO and EU military capabilities while respecting the autonomy of each organization.

IMPLEMENTATION OF PARTNERSHIP GOALS

- To support the implementation of agreed Partnership Goals, partners get access to relevant information through the established information-sharing mechanisms of NATO. Since Partnership Goals are mutually agreed by Allies and individual partners, their implementation, although essentially and primarily falling to the partner country concerned, also entails responsibilities for Allies. Allies should, where appropriate and practicable, initiate or adjust bilateral assistance programmes to support the implementation of Partnership Goals.

REVIEW OF PROGRESS

- A biennial review of progress in implementing Partnership Goals, analyzing the current stage of implementation, operational experience, exercises, the availability of resources and other relevant factors, ensures the flexibility to identify Partnership Goals which should remain unchanged, those which should be modified in scope and/or timeframe, and those which should be deleted from the package. The incorporation of new Partnership Goals is also possible. The review also provides an opportunity to identify difficulties in implementing some of the planning targets and to seek assistance from NATO and Allies if necessary to address these difficulties. ■

