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17 December 2024

2025 MILITARY BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The 2025 Military Budget recommended for Council agreement takes into account the security environment, the ceilings and the other provisions set out in the 2025-2029 Common Funding Resource Plan (CFRP).
2. NATO's Military Budget delivers to the 2022 Strategic Concept. This Concept describes NATO's three essential core tasks - deterrence and defence, crisis prevention and management and cooperative security. It emphasises national and collective resilience that is critical to the core tasks and underpins NATO's efforts to safeguard NATO nations, societies and shared values. It also emphasises the cross-cutting importance of investing in technological innovation and integrating climate change, human security and the Women, Peace and Security agenda across all our core tasks.
3. Over the last decade, NATO has undergone pivotal shifts. Since 2022 and Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, the Alliance has faced a critical time for security and international peace and stability. At the 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 Summits, Heads of State and Government (HoSG) took historic decisions which ushered NATO into a new era of collective defence. This document acts as one of the vehicles to turn the Alliance's strengthened posture, priorities and HoSG's decisions on common funding into action.
4. The Military Budget sustains the NATO Command Structure, contributes to readiness and interoperability through collective training and exercises, and enables the provision of core military capabilities. It also ensures the fulfilment of NATO's responsibilities in Alliance Missions and Operations, and contributes to cooperative security through practical cooperation with partners. Moreover, through the use of the Military Budget, key outcomes are achieved for Allies' collective benefit. This is particularly salient in the current security environment undergoing radical change with capabilities such as the NATO Airborne Early Warning and Control Force, and the NATO Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance Force acting as the Alliance's 'eyes in the sky'.
5. For 2025, the Budget Holders requested EUR 2,377 million of requirements. The BC screened the requested activities and have recommended a total amount of EUR 2,373 million. The recommended budget for 2025 takes account of uncommitted appropriations in 2024 that have been specially carried forward from 2024 to 2025, in a total amount of EUR 158.3 million that will be closely monitored during 2025 to ensure sufficiency in carrying out the agreed level of activities and missions.

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