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NORTH ATLANTIC MILITARY COMMITTEE
COMITE MILITAIRE DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD

Standing Group

Groupe Permanent

REGRADED NATO UNCLASSIFIED

SGM-620-50

28 December 1950

Per Authority IMSM-431-99

By JACOURE Date 10-4-50

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Representatives, Designate, of the Military Standardization Agency of the Standing Group.

SUBJECT: Organization of North Atlantic Treaty Organization Military Standardization Agency.

1. At their Fourth Meeting on 24 October 1950, the North Atlantic Military Committee approved the establishment of a North Atlantic Treaty Organization Military Standardization Agency (MSA) and directed the Standing Group to implement the decision of the Military Committee.

2. The Terms of Reference for the MSA are appended hereto.

3. The first meeting of the MSA has been set for 15 January 1951 at the offices of the Western European Regional Planning Group, 34-36 Chesham Place, London, S.W. 1. The Chief Secretary of the Western European Regional Planning Group, Colonel de Villeplee, has offered to provide secretariat service as an interim measure.

For the Standing Group:

SIGNED

C. H. DONNELLY
Colonel, USA
Senior Secretary

330/MSA/1300

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APPENDIX

ORGANIZATION OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY
ORGANIZATION MILITARY STANDARDIZATION AGENCY

GENERAL

1. The Military Standardization Agency (MSA) is established by the Standing Group for the purpose of fostering standardization between the armed forces of the North Atlantic Treaty nations, to the extent required for the efficient implementation of the defense plans. The MSA field of activity covers all aspects of operational and administrative procedures on the one hand and all aspects of war materiel and equipment on the other hand, except such specific fields undertaken by other specialized Standing Group committees as prescribed by the Standing Group. (Annex).

*T.M.G.
NOT
Specified in
the annexes*

2. The MSA receives its basic directives from the Standing Group, in the form of statements of the broad policies to be implemented for the initiation and development of military standardization among treaty nations, where standardization is required.

COMPOSITION

3. The MSA shall be composed of an Army Board, a Navy Board and an Air Force Board, each consisting of a Service member of France, the United Kingdom and the United States. Alternates may be appointed.

*3 members =
Army Board
(member 4)
(the 3 Air Force members)*

4. Each of the other North Atlantic Treaty nations not indicated above will appoint a representative to maintain liaison between each MSA Board and its national staff.

FUNCTIONS

5. The MSA shall:
- a. Provide a central registry for all standardization agreements among the treaty nations. Pass information to

*Specified in
the annexes
to the
Agreement*

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interested nations for evaluation and action. Review standardization agreements in the light of current guidance and plans, and report to the Standing Group all cases that are not in consonance therewith.

b. Establish and maintain liaison with the North Atlantic Military Production and Supply Board to insure mutual exchange of information on questions relating to materiel standardization so as to facilitate military production and supply.

c. Receive lists of operational requirements requiring item standardization between various member nations in support thereof from the individual Regional Planning Groups. Coordinate such requirements to avoid conflict and duplication and furnish them to the member nations as pertinent for further action.

d. Upon receipt from the Standing Group of designated items common to all operations, establish, convene, and monitor working groups from any nation with a view towards arriving at the earliest possible standardization of such items.

*later
see the
div 4*

e. Undertake such additional tasks, in the field of standardization, as the Standing Group may desire.

f. Keep the Standing Group informed on the general progress of standardization. Bring to the attention of the Standing Group standardization problems having an important bearing on the adequacy of the armed forces of North Atlantic Treaty nations.

g. Submit for approval of the Standing Group matters not covered by existing policy.

FREQUENCY OF SESSIONS

6. The Service Boards will be so organized as to function continuously. Other representatives will be invited to participate in the Board's discussions when the subject under consideration is of interest to the nation concerned. Attendance will be

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based upon the tasks assigned to nations in North Atlantic Treaty Organization defense plans, and further upon the knowledge available in any particular field.

CHAIRMANSHIP

7. Chairmanship of the MSA will be exercised in turn by each Standing Group nation, according to a procedure to be defined by the MSA. The Chairman will be responsible for coordination with existing standardization agencies.

PROCEDURES

8. The Agency will observe procedures laid down by the Standing Group.

PERMANENT LOCATION

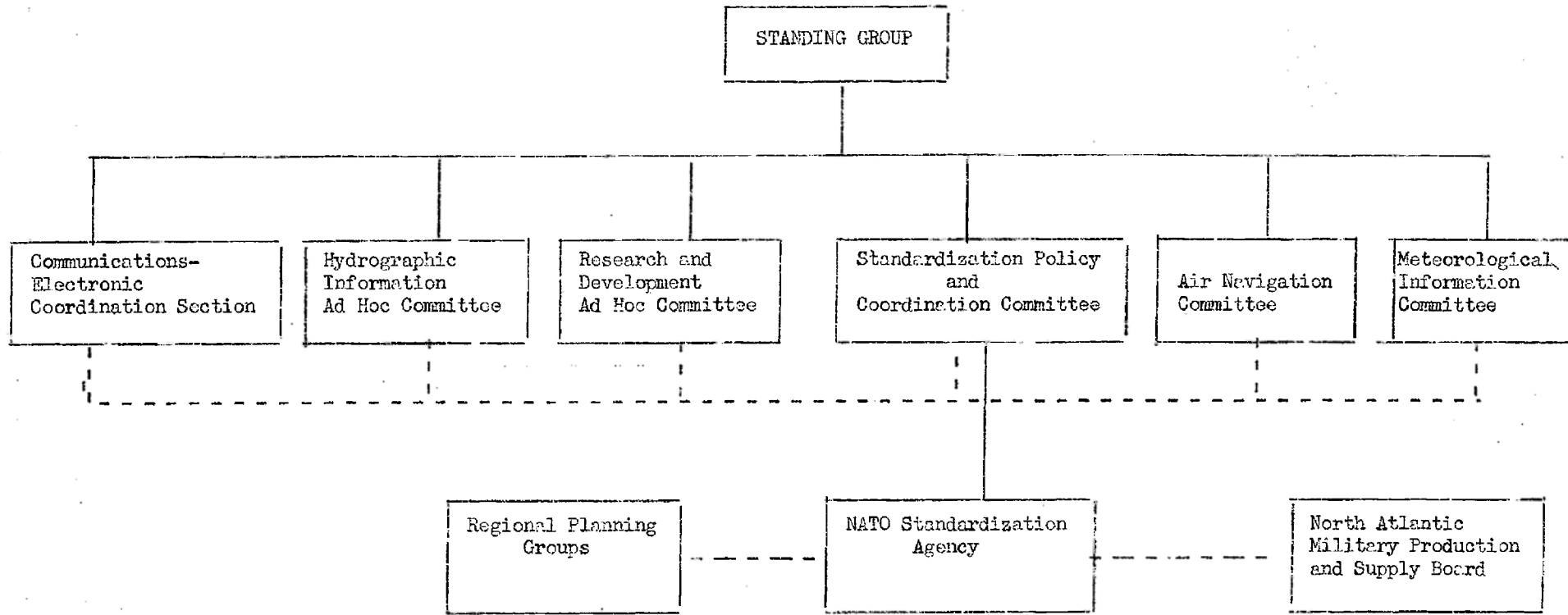
9. The permanent location of the MSA will be in London.

SECRETARIAT

10. The agency shall make such arrangements for its staff and secretarial service as it considers necessary, subject to the approval of the Standing Group.

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----- Coordination regarding standardization

- - - - - Liaison

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