

STO - CMRE



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Future Options Study

- Science and Technology Organisation formed in NATO
- NURC moved from NATO Military Command Structure to new STO and renamed Centre for Maritime Research and Experimentation (CMRE)
- Change of protocol from Military to Agency Status
- Vessels remained in Military Command Structure as interim measure while future options study conducted
- Direction from Nations that interim period would end 31 December 2015
- Long term stable solution required
- Future options study and Vessel Task Force established to interact with Nations and provide solutions

Vessel options

- 'As is situation' with DEU not viable as a Public Flagged Vessel could not be moved under different Protocol
- Limited solutions available
- Italy offered Military Flag with military crew
 - CMRE continue directing operations
 - CMRE oversight of vessel
 - CMRE funding all costs except for crewing (provided by Italian Navy)

Negotiations and Implementation

- Currently on going
- Highly complex issues to solve
- Similar to a new build except current arrangements have to be terminated in a structured manner to allow a smooth transition
- New Flag
- New insurance required
- New operating and safety manuals
- New crew training
- Modifications to ship – change in classification
- Estimate is 3 – 4 month non operational period early 2016

Future

- More efficient model
- Reduced rates
- Continue to work with existing customers
- Custody of vessels resides with CMRE, something not possible in the past
- NATO committed to maritime research and has endorsed requirement for research vessels

Personnel

- From last year.....Job opportunity – Recruiting for my Deputy position (Engineer) Available in Oct 2014. Details on CMRE website.
- QUEST tied up.....

