

News Release



NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION
Allied Joint Force Command Lisbon
Office of the Public Affairs Advisor



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Handover Ceremony at JFC Lisbon

Oeiras, 30 July 2012. Tomorrow Lieutenant General Philippe Stoltz, French Army, Commander of Allied Joint Force Command (JFC) Lisbon, will hand over to Lieutenant General Manuel Mestre, Spanish Air Force, the current Deputy Commander of JFC Lisbon, during a short ceremony at the NATO Headquarters in Oeiras.

During the ceremony, LtGen Stoltz will also take the opportunity to present medals and commendations to select staff members in the presence of their colleagues and families.

Appointed as the first French Commander at the operational level in NATO's command structure, LtGen Stoltz assumed command of JFC Lisbon in July 2009. During his tenure, JFC Lisbon had lead responsibility for:

- NATO Support to African Union: NATO's support mission to African Union. JFC Lisbon continues to lead this mission of providing support upon request until 03 December 2012 when the mission will be handed over to JFC Naples,
- Operation Ocean Shield: NATO's contribution to the international counter-piracy efforts off the Horn of Africa. JFC Lisbon was the operational level headquarters for this operation from August 2009 to November 2011 when it was transferred to NATO Maritime Command Northwood,
- Exercises: Steadfast Series Exercises that provide certification for the NATO Response Force,
- NATO Response Force Responsibilities: JFC Lisbon had been the operational level headquarters with NATO Response Force stand-by responsibility for five six-month iterations between 2009 and 2011,
- NATO's New Deployability Concept: Following the decisions about NATO Command Structure Reform during the 2010 Lisbon Summit, JFC Lisbon led efforts to develop a new Deployable Headquarters Concept in line with the new structure.

Well-known in JFC Lisbon for his love of sports, especially running, LtGen Stoltz has provided inspirational leadership and motivation during a period of considerable change for the Alliance.

LtGen Mestre will now take over Command until the official deactivation of JFC Lisbon on 01 January 2013.

No media opportunity is planned during the event. Please find the attached biographies of LtGen Stoltz and LtGen Mestre.

For further information, please contact:

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