



Sir, Madam,

We have the pleasure to invite you to the colloquium organised on **7 March 2013** by the Royal Higher Institute for Defence:

Science & Technology for Defence: Luxury or Need?

This colloquium aims to inform a wide audience about the methods of organising and conducting scientific and technological research within Defence, both at international and Belgian level.

In times of budget austerity and the subsequent adjusted priorities, also within Defence, consideration could be given as to which role scientific and technological research still has to play. What long-term strategy needs to be developed at a time when social and geopolitical reality is evolving so rapidly? What arguments can be put forward to demonstrate the value and usefulness of research in a social context? These themes will be part of the keynote lecture given by Professor Bart De Moor, vice-rector at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven.

During the first session, the existing research strategies and partnerships within a NATO context as well as within the European Union will be explained. The same session also includes two lectures dealing with the research policy pursued within the Dutch and the French armed forces.

During the second session of the colloquium, a number of examples describing the conduct of research within the Belgian Defence will be given. The role played by the Royal Military Academy as well as the usefulness of research for the Directorate General Material Resources will be explained. A lecture on cutting-edge research in the field of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats will close this session.

This colloquium will take place on Thursday morning **7 March 2013** at the Campus Renaissance conference centre (entrance: rue Hobbema 8, 1000 Brussels). Simultaneous translation into English, Dutch and French will be provided. Parking is available on site. Please find attached the detailed programme. We kindly ask you to confirm your participation **before 22 February 2013** by sending the completed reply form by e-mail to symposium.rhid@mil.be or by fax to +32 2 742 69 57.

(signed)

Corinne FAUT

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Director-general

Royal Higher Institute for Defence



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