



SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER EUROPE

COMMANDANT SUPRÈME DES FORCES ALLIÉES EN
EUROPE

Mons - Belgium



SH/OPS/J2/GEOMETOC/JB/26-NMTOC26-1-JI

05 January 2026

TO: ALL NMTOC 26-1 PARTICIPANTS & INSTRUCTORS

SUBJECT: **NMTOC JOINING INSTRUCTIONS (JIs)**

REFERENCE: CALLING NOTICE FOR THE NATO METOC TACTICAL
OPERATIONS COURSE, 10–13 FEBRUARY 2026, dated 06 DEC 25

Introduction

1. Welcome to the NMTOC 26-1, the first NATO METOC Tactical Operators Course for 2026, I am pleased to confirm your attendance on the course and provide you with joining instructions accordingly.

2. The course is kindly hosted by the NATO Maritime GEOMETOC Centre of Excellence (MGeoMETOCCoE), located within the facilities of the Portuguese Hydrographic Institute (IHPT) at R. das Trinas 49, 1249-093 Lisboa, Portugal. The Google maps link is <https://maps.app.goo.gl/FwxnpscnyaRUV8sDi6> and will take place between 10-13 February 2026. Please arrive before 0815 on 10 February as training will start at 0830 daily. Please enter building as indicated below. There is no car parking available on site and car users may struggle to park locally.



SHAPE
7010 Mons, Belgium
Office: +32-(0)65-44-6223

NCN: 254-6223
Fax: +32 65 443545 (Registry)
james.bridge@nato.int

Agenda & Logistics

3. The agenda is at Annex A and will include guest speakers from SHAPE, The MGeoMETOCCoE and the Multinational METOC Support Group (MNMSG). The course agenda is subject to small changes, but it should provide you with an overview of what to expect during the course. There will be regular intervals with coffee, water and snacks provided in the 70-euro administration fee, along with a traditional ice breaker.
4. Lunch will be taken at the IHPT in a military style catering facility at a daily cost of 6 euros (Cash only).
5. There is a 70-euro administration course fee for the NMTOC, payment in cash only will be taken on day 1 or in advance by bank transfer to Name - NATO MARITIME GEOSPATIAL METEROLOGICAL using the IBAN number- PT500018000352977899020 22. The course is facilitated by SHAPE for NATO. Students are required to fund their own travel and subsistence expenses in accordance with their own national policies.

Security

6. All students and visiting instructors are required to bring their national Identity card and / or passports, so they can be checked by the security desk on arrival. The course will be taught at NATO UNCLASSIFIED, therefore students may bring personal / military laptops, along with mobile phones, into the venue. There is limited wifi available.

Accommodation

7. There is no military accommodation available, therefore students may want to consider the discounted hotel options arranged by the MGeoMETOCCoE at annex B. All hotels should be made in accordance with national policies.

Dress code

8. Due to the location within central Lisbon and limited changing areas, students will wear business casual. Business casual is comprised of a sleeved shirt with trousers, with or without jacket and tie, with equivalent attire for ladies. Jeans, T-shirts, shorts, flip flops/sandals are not acceptable.

Transport

9. The nearest airport is Aeroporto Internacional de Lisboa – Humberto Delgado (LIS), located approximately 23 minutes by car and around 45 minutes by public transport from central Lisbon and the IHPT. There is no car parking at the IHPT, therefore students should not bring rental cars to the IHPT. Bolt and Uber taxi apps are widely used in Lisbon and are considered very cheap. Costs from Lisbon Airport to Lisbon City hotels are generally 7-20 euros depending on the time of day and demand. Lisbon has a vast metro system <https://www.metrolisboa.pt/en/> along with an expansive public bus system <https://www.carris.pt/en/>. Students should consider using google maps or similar travel applications to assist with travel. **Students will be released at 1100 on Friday 13 February 2026** to return back to their units. It is recommended that students do not arrange flights until at least 1330 from Lisbon Airport

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10. The Portuguese Hydrographic Institute (IHPT) is the lead school for military hydrographic and oceanographic training within Portugal. The IHPT along with the MGeoMETOCCoE often hosts high profile visits, therefore standards are expected to be high.

Social Calendar

11. While your free time is your own, there are several social events planned for the evening which you're encouraged to attend, to interact with fellow METOCs from other nations. This includes an ice-breaker event on Tuesday evening within the IHPT and is included in the administration fee. A local restaurant will be booked for Thursday evening to host a non-funded end of course dinner, all students are encouraged to participate in this event.

Confirmation

12. Students are to confirm receipt of this joining letter and how they will pay the 70 euros admin fee, along with providing confirmation of their chosen hotel accommodation to the points of contact below prior to 30 JAN 26.

Points of Contact

13. The Course Officer is Lt Cdr Jim BRIDGE from SHAPE J2 GEOMETOC (Phone: +3265446223, mobile: +447798686539, email: james.bridge@nato.int)

14. The Course Assistant is Capt Gaetan Dury from SHAPE J2 GEOMETOC (Phone +3265446242, e-mail: gaetan.dury@nato.int)

15. MGeoMETOCCoE POC is LTJG Mauro Silva (Phone: +351 210 108 365, mobile: +351 937 959 778, email: mauro.silva@mgeometoccoe.org)

Original Signed

Jim Bridge
Lieutenant Commander (OF-3), GBR-N
SHAPE OPS J2 GEOMETOC
NMTOC Course Officer

ANNEX:

- A. NMTOC Agenda
- B. Discounted Accommodation details

**DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE NATO METOC TACTICAL OPERATIONS COURSE (NMTOC)
2026-01**

Tuesday, 10 February 2026

0830 – 0845	Course Overview and administrative remarks Lt Cdr Jim Bridge - SHAPE
0845 – 0900	Welcome Lt Col Achim Becker, ACO Chief METOC Officer, SHAPE Deputy Director, Cdr Gustavo Gomez (ESP-N) MGeoMETOC CoE
0900– 0930	Introductions All participants and instructors already present (Name, Country, Unit/Role, NATO experience, forthcoming participation in NATO Operations / Exercises if applicable)
0930 – 1015	NATO Overview & ACO METOC Lt Cdr Bridge, Lt Col Becker, SHAPE
1015 – 1030	Coffee Break
1030 – 1115	Integrated METOC Support in NATO Lt Col Becker, SHAPE
1115 – 1145	NATO Climatology Lt Cdr Jim Bridge SHAPE
1145 – 1200	Course Photograph Lt Cdr Jim Bridge SHAPE
1200 – 1300	Lunch Break
1300 – 1340	METOC Documentation and publications Lt Col Becker, SHAPE
1340 – 1410	Introduction to the NATO Crisis Response System and Operations Planning Process Lt Cdr Jim Bridge SHAPE
1410 – 1425	Break
1425 – 1500	Environmental Impacts (AD 80-34) Snr Capt Gaetan Dury, SHAPE
1500 – 1530	Volcanic Ash Lt Cdr Jim Bridge, SHAPE

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1530 – 1545	Break
1545 – 1620	Introduction to the NATO MGeoMETOC CoE Delivered by NATO MGeoMETOC CoE
1620 -1655	MN MSG Overview MNMSG Rep
1655-1700	End of Day 1 summary Lt Cdr Jim Bridge SHAPE
1700	Ice breaker event

Wednesday, 11 February 2026

0830– 0835	Issues arising from Day 1 and overview of Day 2
0835 – 0900	NATO METOC portals (Transnet/NMD Web) and JOMOC as a backup, including live demonstrations. Snr Capt. Gaetan Dury, SHAPE
0900 - 0905	MNMSG Training account introduction MNMSG Rep
0905 - 0935	METOC Support to Maritime Operations Lt Cdr Jim Bridge, SHAPE
0935- 1000	Coffee Break
1000 –1200	Introduction to Military Oceanography and products Lt Cdr Jim Bridge, SHAPE
1200 – 1300	Lunch
1300 – 1430	Space Weather Introduction & Space Weather Effects Major Ulrich Kuester, METOC Officer & FIWxFcstr
1430 – 1445	Break
1445 – 1515	Space Weather Products Major Ulrich Kuester, METOC Officer & FIWxFcstr
1515 – 1545	Break
1545 – 1620	CBRN METOC Overview including CDM and BWR Snr Capt. Gaetan Dury, SHAPE
1620 - 1655	Ballistic Met Lt Cdr Jim Bridge SHAPE

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1655 - 1700 End of day 2 Summary
Lt Cdr Jim Bridge SHAPE

Thursday, 12 February 2026

0830 –0835 Issues arising from Day 2 and overview of Day 3

0835 –0905 METOC IT Systems (NAMIS and Online weather introduction)
Snr Capt. Gaetan Dury, SHAPE

0905- 0920 Coffee break and set up NAMIS laptops

0920-1200 Course splits into two groups

Group 1 (NATO METOC Visualisation Systems Overview, including exercises)
Snr Capt. Gaetan Dury, SHAPE & Major Ulrich Kuester

Group 2 (NMMSG and JOMOC briefing preparation)
Lt Cdr Jim Bridge SHAPE & Lt Col Achim Becker

1200-1300 Lunch

1300–1345 NATO Exercises Introduction

1345 –1400 Coffee Break

1400- 1655 Group 2 (NATO METOC Visualisation Systems Overview, including exercises)
Snr Capt. Gaetan Dury, SHAPE & Major Ulrich Kuester

Group 1 (NMMSG and JOMOC briefing preparation)
Lt Cdr Jim Bridge SHAPE & Lt Col Achim Becker

1655-1700 End of day 2 Summary
Lt Cdr Jim Bridge SHAPE

Friday, 13 February 2026

0815 – 0820 Issues arising from Day 3 and overview of Day 4

0820 – 0900 Climate Change and Climate Security Action in NATO
Lt Col Achim Becker

0900 – 0945 REA and REP
Delivered by MGeoMETOC CoE

0945 – 1000 Coffee Break and return evaluation forms

1000 - 1100 End of Course Evaluation and discussion / certificates
Lt Col Achim Becker, SHAPE

1100 Course Ends

ANNEX B TO
SH/OPS/J2/GEOMETOC/JB/26-2
DATED 05 Jan 26

IHPT / MGEOMETOC COE DISCOUNTED ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

Hotel São Bento

- Rate: 70 EUR per night
- Distance: 15-minute walk from the COE
- Address: Rua de São Bento, 347, 1269-084 Lisbon, Portugal
- Reservations:

Tel: +351 213 979 020

Email: reservas@lisbonsaobentohotel.pt

<https://www.lisbonsaobentohotel.pt/EN/hotel.html>

CAS Oeiras – Centro de Apoio Social de Oeiras (Instituto de Ação Social das Forças Armadas)

Military Social Support Centre offering temporary accommodation

This facility provides temporary, affordable accommodation primarily intended for members or affiliates of the Armed Forces.

- Rate: 40 EUR per night
- Distance: Approximately 40 minutes by public transportation (train)
- Address: R. Dom Duarte 2, 2780-064 Oeiras
- Important Notice:

The IASFA (Instituto de Ação Social das Forças Armadas) does not maintain an English-language website, which may make access to information or reservation details challenging for international participants.

- Reservations:

Tel: +351 214 430 830

Email: casoerias@iasfa.pt

York House Hotel (4★)

- Rate: 114 EUR per night
- Distance: 5-minute walk from the COE (closest hotel to IHPT aside from Airbnbs and hostels)
- Considered a high-end hotel
- Address: Rua das Janelas Verdes 32, 1200-691 Lisbon
- Reservations:

Tel: +351 213 962 435

Email: yorkhouse@yorkhouselisboa.com

Janelas Verdes Hotel (4★)

- Rate: 97 EUR per night
- Distance: 10-minute walk from the COE
- Also considered a high-end hotel
- Address: Rua das Janelas Verdes 47, 1200-690 Lisbon, Portugal
- Reservations:

Tel: +351 213 932 396

Email: reservas@heritage.pt