

# NATO AIRLIFT MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

At the forefront of collective ownership and operation of strategic defence capabilities

## Strategic Airlift Capability (SAC)

The Strategic Airlift Capability (SAC) is a multinational initiative, which provides participating nations assured access to three military Boeing C-17 Globemaster III long-range cargo aircraft to meet their strategic and tactical airlift requirements. Each Member Nation owns a share of the available flight hours and uses them to execute their national, NATO, UN and EU commitments.

Recent developments include the SAC nations acquiring a C-17 Aircrew Training Simulator to be operational at Pápa Air Base, Hungary that will provide the Heavy Airlift Wing aircrews increased flexibility and proficiency training options over the next 20 years. The initial operational capability of the simulator is planned for 2025.

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## NATO Airlift Management Programme



The NATO Airlift Management Programme (NAMP) is a multinational programme established within the NATO Support and Procurement Organization to meet the requirements as prescribed in the SAC Memorandum of Understanding signed on 23 September 2008. NAMP manages and supports the C-17 fleet, whose aircraft are registered and flagged in Hungary. NATO International Staff at NAMP provide financial, logistics, and administrative services in support of the Heavy Airlift Wing, the SAC's operational arm, a multinational military unit located in Pápa, Hungary.

More specifically, NAMP has ownership of the fleet on behalf of SAC Member Nations, and is responsible for acquiring, managing, and supporting SAC's aircraft that Member Nations can call upon to fulfill national operational needs.

The Heavy Airlift Wing is responsible for mission execution in accordance with a pre-agreed allocation of flying hours.

## SAC: 12 Participating Nations

- **NATO Allies** Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and the United States.
- **NATO Partners** Finland and Sweden.

SAC Nations have signed up for membership for (at least) 30 years and with a fixed Life Cycle Cost budget. This provides a stable basis for further developments in the SAC. For example, permanent facilities are being built at Pápa Air Base, the SAC's home base in Hungary.



## New Joiners

Both the SAC Memorandum of Understanding and NSPO Charter stipulate the programme's capacity and the goal of the SAC is to expand its membership. As such, membership is open to all NATO Nations subject to a unanimous vote and fulfillment of the terms agreed by the existing SAC Member Nations. Partner countries are also permitted to participate under the terms of an Agreement and with approval from the North Atlantic Council.



## Heavy Airlift Wing (HAW)



The HAW is based in Pápa, Hungary and is the operational arm of the SAC responsible for C-17 mission execution in accordance with the pre-agreed allocation of flying hours. HAW multinational aircrews provide the full spectrum of C-17 air-land and airdrop missions to include air-to-air refuelling, single-ship airdrop, assault landing, and all-weather operations, day or night into low-to-medium-threat environments. The HAW has flown over 30,000 flight hours and achieved an exceptionally high (>80%) average mission capability rate for the SAC fleet with the support of NAM and contracted maintenance. The high mission capability rate means that aircraft are ready to execute SAC nation's missions with little or no delay. The HAW has delivered cargo and moved passengers to every continent around the world. Operations and exercises include the following:

- International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan (2009– 2014)
- Earthquake relief in Haiti (2010)
- NATO operations in Libya (2011)
- UN approved training and peacekeeping operations in Mali (2013)
- NATO Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan (2015 – present)
- NATO exercise Trident Juncture (2015)
- Medical evacuation flight in support of Romania (2015)
- First Airlift Mission to Gao, Mali (2016)
- First SAC Mission to Timbuktu (2016)
- Exercise Saber Guardian (2017)
- Humanitarian relief – Hurricane Irma (2017)
- Exercise Aurora 17 (2017)
- Exercise Swift response II (2017)
- Exercise Saber Strike (2018)
- Air Drop Operation to support deployed troops in Mali (2018)
- Exercise Saber Junction (2018)
- NATO Exercise Trident Juncture (2018)
- COVID-19 Emergency Response Missions (2020)
- Lebanon explosion relief mission (2020)

## SAC – invites new members

The SAC is open to new members, open to all NATO Nations and partner countries, under the terms of an Agreement with approval from the North Atlantic Council.

**For any enquiry, please contact NATO Airlift Management Programme:**

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