Standardization within NATO

Allied Joint Doctrine Development and Maintenance

Colonel (ret.) Dieter Schmaglowski DEU - A NATO Standardization Adviser and Consultant d.schmaglowski@hotmail.de

18 September 2025

Topics

What is NATO Allied Joint Doctrine?



Allied Joint Doctrine Development and Maintenance Process

What is NATO Allied Joint Doctrine?

Allied Joint Doctrine

Defined in NATOTerm:

Fundamental principles by which the military forces guide their actions in support of objectives. It is authoritative but requires judgement in application

- focuses on how not what to think
- provides a common way for Alliance forces to think, understand, plan and operate
- contributes to interoperability of Allied forces

Source: AAP-47

Allied Doctrine Hierarchy

Allied Doctrine Levels

Source: AAP-47



- Capstone and keystone publications
- AJP-01 (capstone publication) links joint doctrine to Alliance strategy, Keystone publications (AJP-2, -3, -4, -5, -6, -10) provide doctrinal foundation for a series of AJPs addressing specific functional areas

LEVEL 2

- Joint Doctrine for specific functional areas
- Address operational-level concepts (how, not what to think) relevant to the joint commander

Example: AJP-3.2 Allied Joint Doctrine for Land Operations

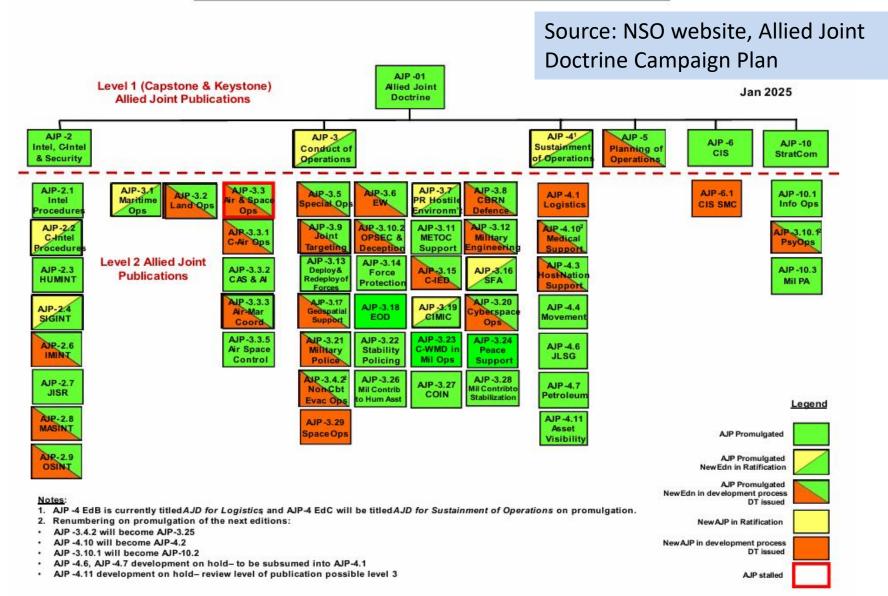
LEVEL 3

 Publications containing tactics techniques & procedures to support and enhance AJPs

Example: AIntP-14 Joint Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Procedures in Support of NATO Operations

Allied Joint Doctrine

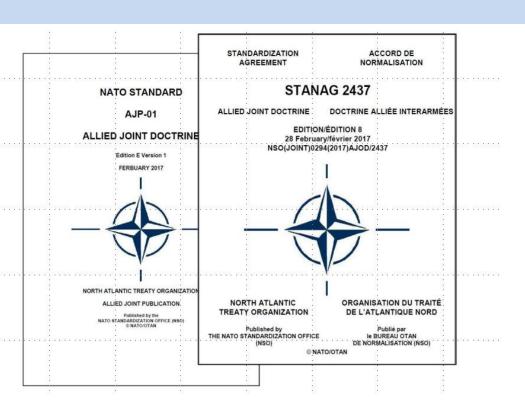
ALLIED JOINT DOCTRINE ARCHITECTURE



Allied Joint Doctrine - Summary -

- 'bookshelf' of (currently) 55 AJPs
- common framework to help commanders and staff to think, plan and operate
- focus is operational level, but has utility for strategic and tactical levels
- guidance for planning and operations, but allows commanders to adapt to the specific circumstances ('how' not 'what')
- contributes to interoperability

STANAGs and Allied Joint Doctrine

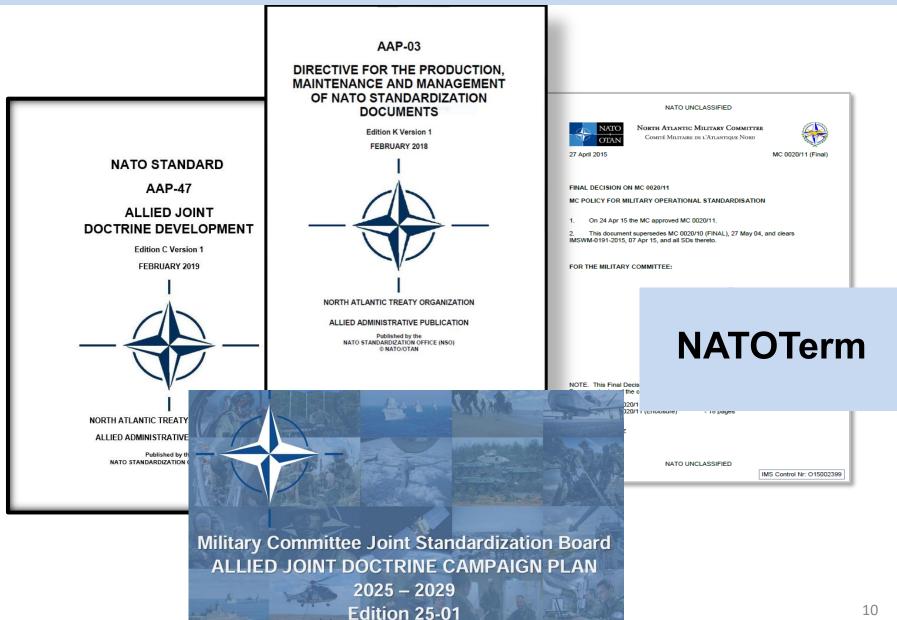


AAP-03 has to be applied:

Each AJP is covered by a STANAG

Important Documents for Allied Joint Doctrine Development and Maintenance

Important Documents for Allied Joint Doctrine



AAP-03

AAP-03

DIRECTIVE FOR THE PRODUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF NATO STANDARDIZATION DOCUMENTS

Edition K Version 1 FEBRUARY 2018



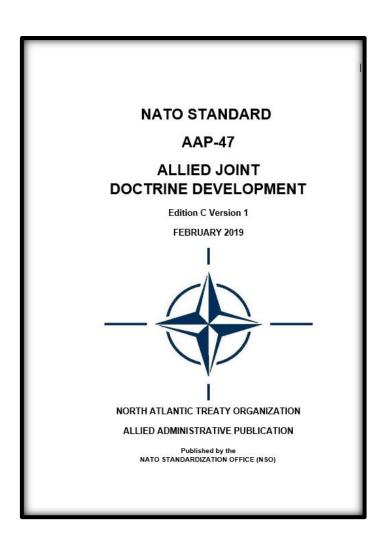
ALLIED ADMINISTRATIVE PUBLICATION

Published by the NATO STANDARDIZATION OFFICE (NSO)

© NATO/OTAN

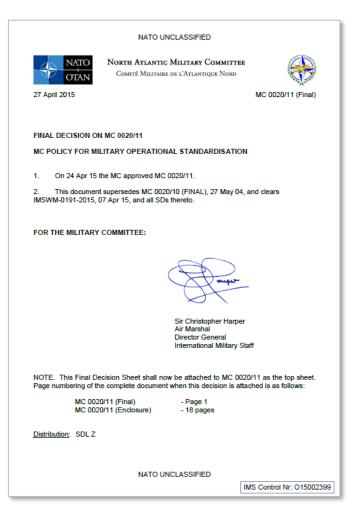
- Procedures mandatory for TAs/DTAs, WGs,
 <u>custodians</u>, ...
- Defines NATO standardization documents
- Describes NATO standardization process
- Addresses roles/responsibilities of standardization actors
- Provides guidance for <u>selection of cover</u>
 <u>documents</u>, content of SP and ST,
 <u>determination of promulgation criteria</u>,
 content of <u>implementation paragraph</u>
- Templates for SP, SP inquiry, ST, STANAG, STANREC, ...

AAP-47



- Supplement to AAP-03
- Specific procedures for development of <u>Allied</u>
 <u>Joint Doctrine</u>

MC 0020/11



- Policy for development and management of NATO standardization documents under MC
- Describes MC standardization structure (MC Standardization Boards)
- Addresses roles/ responsibilities (TOR for MC SBs)

(Amendment IMSM-0197-2019, dtd 24 May 2019: addresses required positive ratification responses for Capstone and Keystone AJPs)

Allied Joint Doctrine Campaign Plan



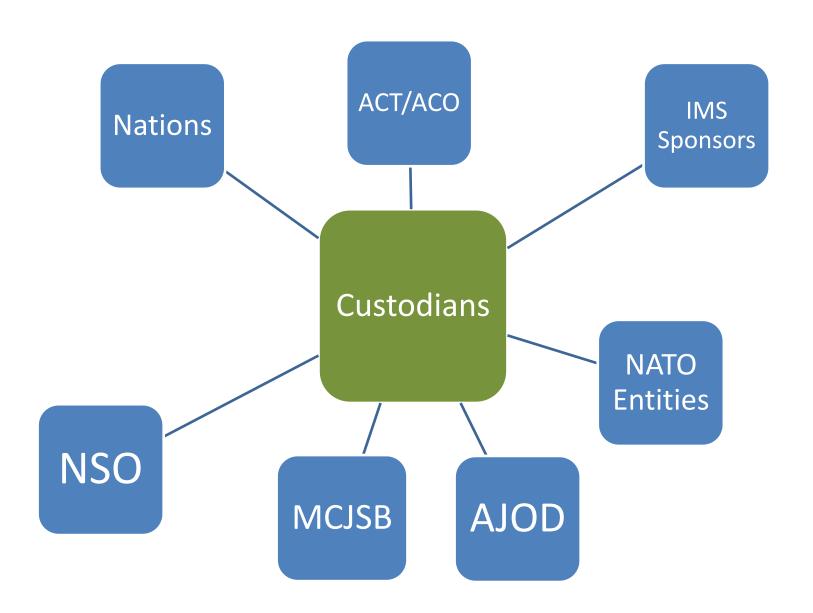
- Managed by ACT on behalf of MCJSB
- Programs revision of AJPs over 5-year cycle
- Reviewed and updated every six months

Allied Joint Doctrine Development and Maintenance Process

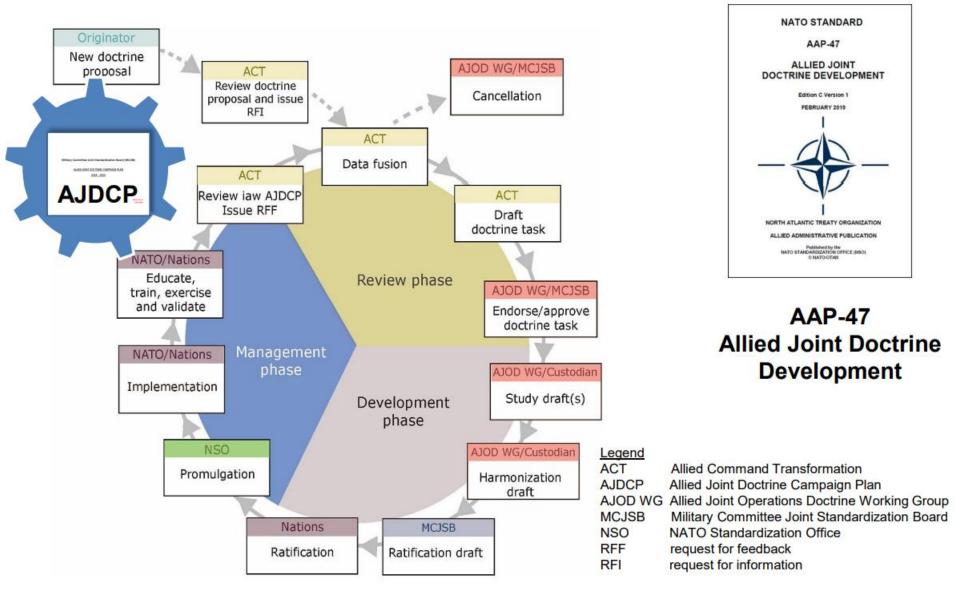
Drivers for Allied Joint Doctrine



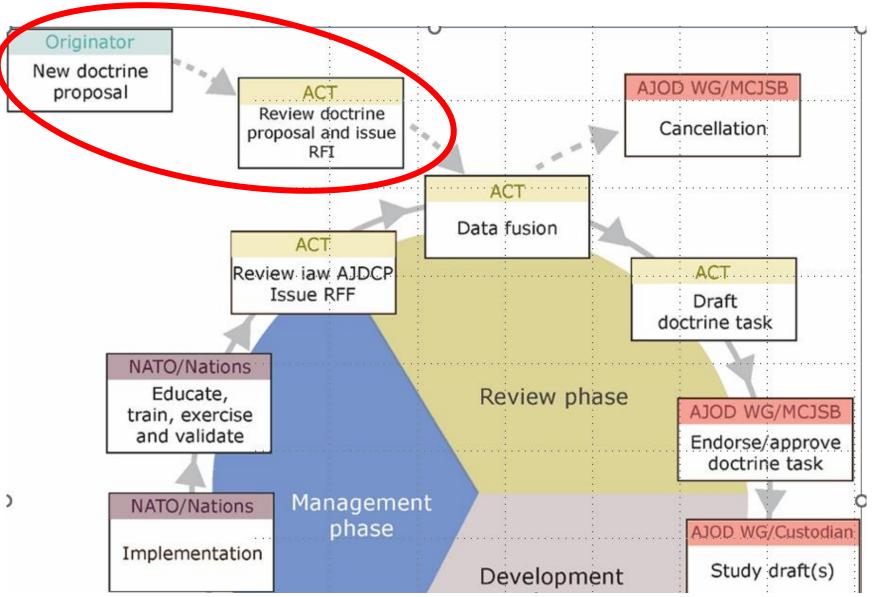
Allied Joint Doctrine Stakeholders



Development & Maintenance Cycle IAW AAP-47



New Allied Joint Doctrine Development

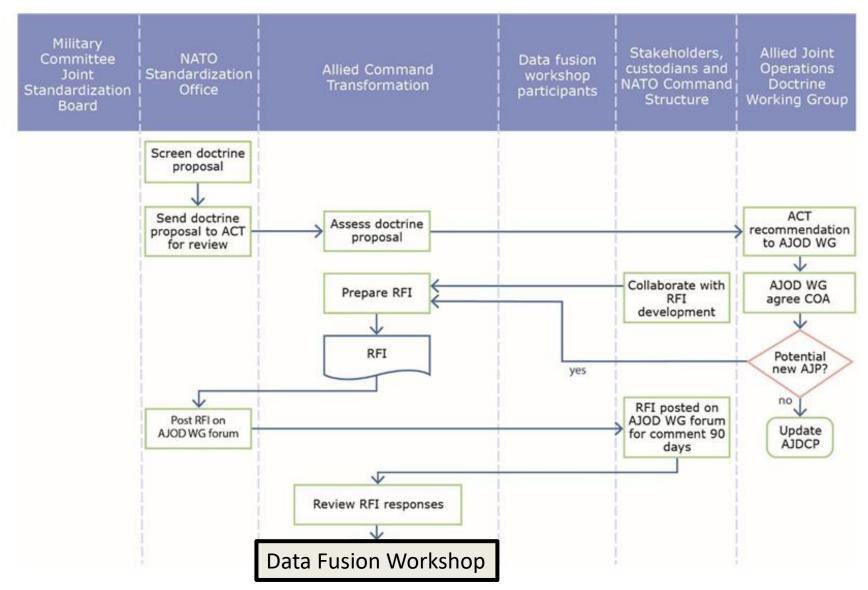


New Allied Joint Doctrine Development

New Doctrine Proposal

- Originator should state:
 - ✓ Rational for development.
 - ✓ AJP scope purpose and application
 - ✓ AJP proposed title and outline
 - ✓ Development particulars
 - ✓ Links with NDPP and CC/CS
- Initial submission to the NSO for quality control then to ACT for review
- ACT to AJOD WG for endorsement
- Validation with request for information (RFI) issued by ACT and Data Fusion Workshop

Staffing of Allied Joint Doctrine Proposal



Allied Joint Doctrine Review

- DATA Fusion Workshop -

Expert workshop, to:

- Discuss key issues raised in the RFI responses
- Resolve contentious issues
- Provide recommendations
- Adjudicates all comments
- Decides whether a new Allied Joint Doctrine publication is required

Aim:

- Deliver an informative and complete doctrine task to guide the custodian.
- Reduce timelines for development
- Improve quality of doctrine

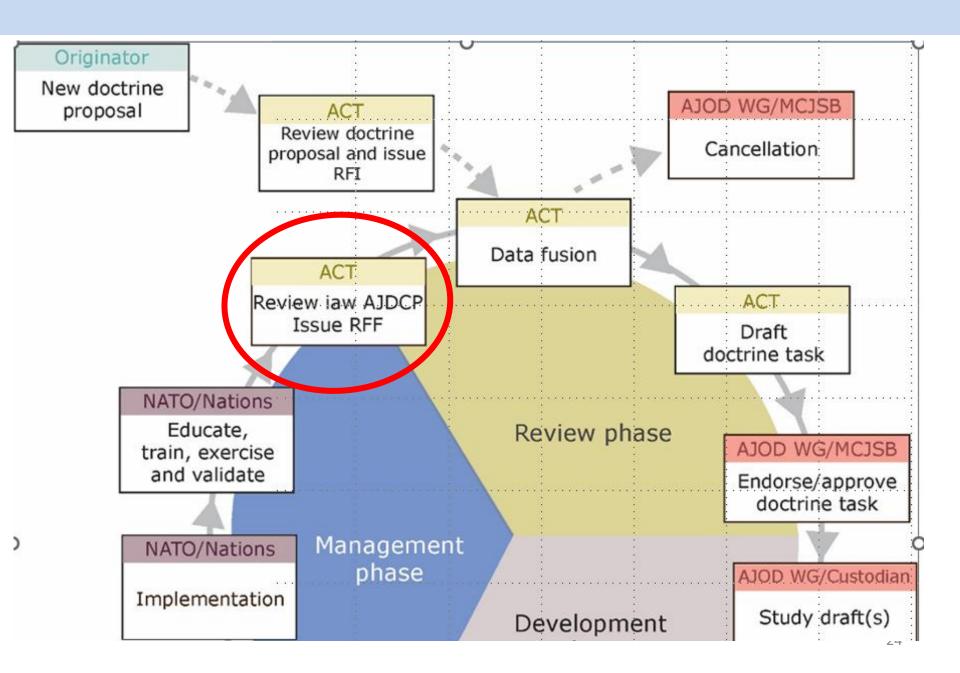
The Doctrine Task

Developed by ACT, approved by MCJSB

- Assigns custodianship
- Sets the framework and timeline for completing the AJP
- Defines the title, AJP number and place in the AJDA
- Confirms scope and purpose
- Confirms classification ('no classification' marking preferred)
- Addresses terminology to be reviewed
- Sets promulgation criteria

! Guides custodian!

Allied Joint Review

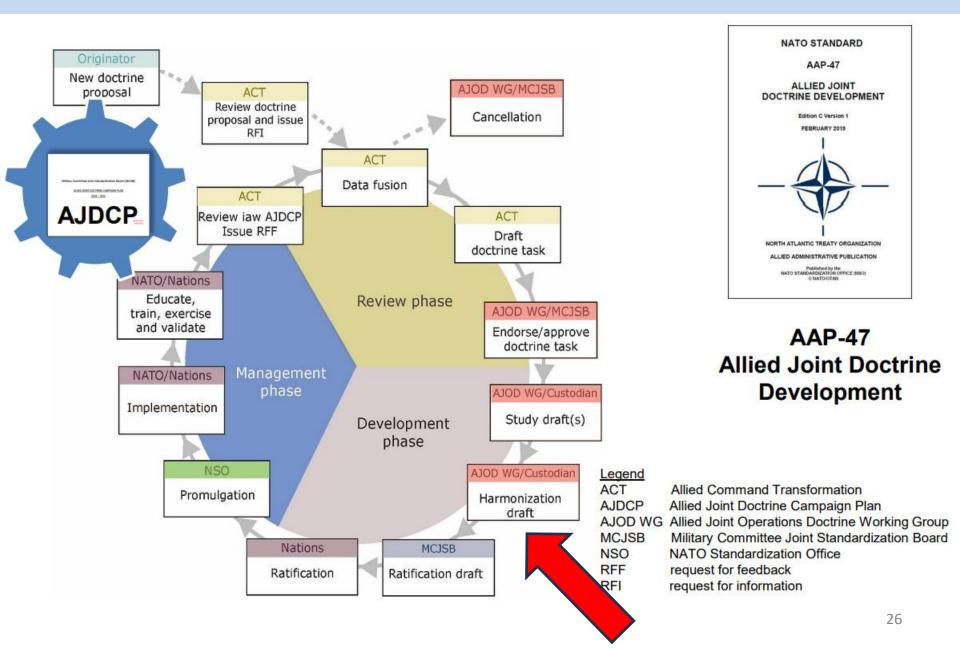


Allied Joint Doctrine Review

- Request for Feedback (RFF) -

- Formally starts 'review' phase for Allied Joint Doctrine
- Questionnaire prepared by ACT and submitted to all stakeholders with a 90 day suspense period.
- Questions specifically tailored to address issues:
 - ✓ Identify doctrine voids
 - ✓ Explain doctrine inaccuracy
 - ✓ Point out harmonization issues
- RFF responses should support the need for a data fusion workshop

Development & Maintenance Cycle IAW AAP-47



Allied Joint Doctrine Development & Revision

- The Harmonization Phase for Study Drafts -

Harmonization

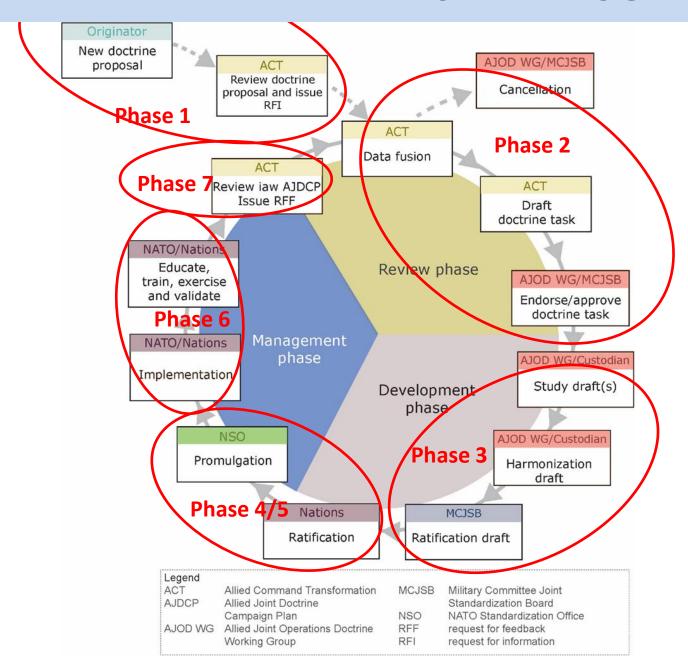
- SD^{final} is posted on the AJODWG forum for 30 days
- Content review to ensure
 - ✓ Compliance with extant policy
 - ✓ Coherency with doctrine both across (horizontal harmonization)
 & up / down (vertical harmonization)
- Comments accepted only for harmonization purposes
- Harmonized draft submitted for MCJSB approval (Ratification Draft (RD))

Allied Joint Doctrine Approval

 Level 1 AJPs endorsed by MCJSB, approved by the MC

Level 2 AJPs approved by MCJSB

AAP-47 vs AAP-03



AAP-47 vs AAP-03

AAP-03 (K)

AAP-47 (C)

Standardization Proposal SP

Doctrine Proposal

Standardization Inquiry

Request for Information RFI

Request for Feedback RFF

Standardization Task
ST

Doctrine Task
DT

Final Draft

Harmonization Draft

Allied Joint Doctrine Development - Take Away -

- ✓ AAP-47 complements AAP-3, provides more thorough guidance & clarifies ownership of the various stages in AJD development.
- ✓ Requests for Information / Feedback & Data Fusion Workshops are means to:
 - Reduce development timelines
 - Ensure AJPs are coherent & harmonized with emerging concepts and policy,
 - Incorporate of Lessons Identified (LI) in operations, training & exercises
- ✓ ACT is the process manager, AJODWG is the coordinating forum, NSO provides admin support and MCJSB approves all level 2 AJPs (MC for level 1).
- ✓ AJD review timelines are described in the AJDCP, available on NSO website

Your questions...

