Le contrôle général des armées
ministère des armées
FRANCE

Luxembourg - May 15th, 2019
CGA’s unique position within the organization of the Ministry of Defence
The CGA assists the Minister with the management of the Ministry (D.3123-1 du code de la défense).

By checking, amongst other things, the following:

- **Compliance with Laws and regulations**;
- **Relevance of decisions**;
- **Efficiency of the results** with regards to set goals and proper use of public money.
Our mission in the present status of the Ministry

An interesting motto, the NAO one: « *Help the Nation spend wisely* »

- Contribute to the proper use, by both armed forces and support entities, of the resources granted by the Nation.

- Check whether the human, financial and technological resources are efficiently used by the armed forces and other entities within the Ministry.

- Help the Ministry to overcome obstacles and rigidities that hinder the necessary transformations it has to perform.
The Minister’s expectations

- The CGA in its « audit » role
  - Relevance of work performed and deliverables

- The CGA as an « embedded » control tool within some processes
  - Raise warnings

- The CGA as an actor of the Ministry’s transformation
  - Bring expertise and objectivity
Fundamental principles in CGA action

Two major principles

- **Objectivity**
  - CGA observes, compares, documents, describes...it does not “guess” or “assume” or “judge” but assesses objectively;
  - CGA checks whatever it wants and has total access to any kind of information that it needs to perform its duty.

- **Independence**
  - The controller is independent from the audited bodies and hierarchies, and performs his/her missions according to professional standards;
  - He/she belongs to an organized and hierarchic body, and is supported by collegial reviews and coaching, as well as a quality assurance process.
Execution modalities of CGA missions

- Audit missions
- Sectorial control
- Audit of armament acquisition programs
- IT audit
- Armaments export controls / weapon trafficking regulation
- Internal audit mission
Additional competencies

- Working conditions regulations and « sensitive » sites with respect to environment protection regulations
- Government commissioners
- Relationships with the « Cour des Comptes »
- Preventive check of some organization and human resources regulations and legal texts drafts
- Individual rights protection

Thémis
CGA is present in major decisional instances

- COMEX (executive committee)
- CMI (investments committee)
- C2M (ministry modernization committee)
- COSTRATs (strategic committees (for some major projects or policies))
Organisation aligned with that of the Ministry

Chef du contrôle général des armées

Adjoint au chef du contrôle général des armées

Mission ministérielle d’audit interne

Secrétaire général

FSI
Groupe de contrôle des forces, du soutien et des systèmes d’information

AME
Groupe de contrôle de l’armement, du maintien en condition opérationnelle et des exportations

PRB
Groupe de contrôle du personnel, de la réglementation et du budget

IS
Groupe des inspections spécialisées
Pôle travail
Pôle environnement

Centre de préparation au concours
Chef de cabinet, chargé de communication
Département du soutien général
Bureau des ressources humaines
Chargé de prévention

Responsable formation
Département d’appui aux activités
Bureau des méthodes et de l’aide au pilotage
Bureau du management de l’information
Bureau des systèmes d’informations

Approximately 50 controllers in audit duties
Around 100 collaborators in various skills domains
Human Resources

- Officers, members of the CGA military corps
- Second part of career path
- Selection by entrance examination amongst experienced military officers and civil servants
- 6 “Contrôleurs Généraux” in “extraordinary missions” (CGME)
Its action has to be considered in terms of duration, supporting performance and compliance in various sectors: armament programs, supply services, human resources, finance, IT..

The CGA takes into account and assesses internal control and internal audit within the audited organisations.
Conclusion

- A unique institution compared to other « ministerial inspections ».
- Very few similar bodies or counterparts abroad.
- A unique source of objective information.
- Continuous requirements to perform and adapt in accordance with present and future transformation challenges as faced by the Ministry.