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Meeting with British Foreign and Defence Ministers

Wednesday, 19 September 2012. The President of Poland, Bronisław Komorowski met with British Foreign Secretary William Hague and the Minister of Defence, Philip Hammond. The meeting was also attended by the Polish Secretary of State, Stanisław Koziej.

The parties discussed issues related to bilateral cooperation, decisions undertaken during the NATO Summit in Chicago and their implementation, the enhancement of the Common Security and Defence Policy within the European Union as well as the planned modernization of the Polish air defense system, including the antimissile system.

The President emphasized that he is consistently in favor of accomplishing the arrangements undertaken during NATO Summit in Chicago with regard to Afghanistan, including completing ISAF operations by the end of 2014. Acknowledging the need to find a political solution in order to ensure stability and security in this country, President B. Komorowski said that supporting training of the Afghan Armed Forces and Police will be one of the essential elements to achieve it.

Bronisław Komorowski indicated that the planned modernization of the national air defense system will not only strengthen the Polish defense potential, but will also contribute to the collective security of the allies.

The President said that Poland would like the Common Security and Defence Policy to become a fine supplement (not a substitute) of the North Atlantic alliance.

Informing about his visit in Ukraine, due to start the next day (20.09), Bronisław Komorowski underlined that cooperation with Ukraine should be kept up while that country is in a process of approaching the Euro-Atlantic structures. He expressed his belief that the future of Ukraine is essential for the success of democratic processes in other former USSR republics.

Before the meeting in the Presidential Palace, William Hague and Philip Hammond took part in the Polish-British Quadrilateral Meeting of Foreign and Defence Ministers. This type of meetings are the common diplomatic practice, resulting from deeper and deeper links between foreign, defense and security policies.



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