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The Honourable John Williamson
Chair, Standing Committee on Public Accounts
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Williamson,

National Defence is pleased to present the House Standing Committee on Public Accounts the enclosed status update on the Justice Administration and Information Management System.

Sincerely,

Stefanie Beck

Enclosure: 1

**Update to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts on
Report 3, Administration of Justice in the Canadian Armed Forces, of the 2018 Spring
Reports of the Auditor General of Canada**

PACP Request for Information:

Given that much of the success of the Office of the Judge Advocate General's corrective measures will depend upon the successful implementation and use of the Justice Administration and Information Management System (JAIMS), the Committee requests a status update on JAIMS; initial feedback pertaining to its use; its training practices; and feedback pertaining to any administrative improvements in the military justice system.

Background

On April 22, 2020, National Defence received a letter from the Standing Committee on Public Accounts (PACP) requesting an update on the implementation of the Justice Administration and Information Management System, or "JAIMS."

In its response to the Committee in May 2020, National Defence reported that the COVID-19 pandemic had impacted timelines around the development of the JAIMS software and its expanded rollout across the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF).

Since then, National Defence has provided the Committee with regular updates on the rollout of JAIMS, functional and administrative improvements, as well as training practices and user feedback. This has included information on work to ensure that JAIMS reflects the substantial changes made to summary hearing pathways, as a result of the implementation of the remaining provisions of Bill C-77 (*An Act to amend the National Defence Act and to make related and consequential amendments to other Acts*) and the *Declaration of Victims' Rights*.

Last year, National Defence committed to updating the Committee on progress made in the development and rollout of JAIMS by June 30, 2024. In its latest update below, National Defence confirms that it remains on track to commence the rollout of JAIMS in fall 2024 and that it has completed planning for a corresponding e-training platform for users.

Update on the Justice Administration and Information Management System

Rollout and Functional and Administrative Improvements to JAIMS

As noted in previous updates from National Defence, amendments to the *National Defence Act* – resulting from the implementation of the remaining provisions of Bill C-77 in June 2022 and the *Declaration of Victims' Rights* – have had a significant impact on the administration of military justice case files; most immediately, the introduction of the new summary hearing process.

Accordingly, National Defence continues to ensure that JAIMS accounts for these developments, reflects the military justice system as it exists today, and provides data that can be effectively measured and analyzed. Indeed, functional and administrative improvements to JAIMS 2.0 are linked to ensuring that these changes are reflected in the updated system.

For example, following the coming into force of Bill C-77, the time standards applicable to every phase of the military justice process were updated to accurately reflect the outlined changes to the military justice system. These updated time standards were communicated across the CAF by the Chief of the Defence Staff in April 2024. In addition, planning remains ongoing to ensure that data concerning court martial processes (ex: data housed in the Director of Military Prosecutions' Court Martial System [DMP-CMS]) is accessible through JAIMS.

Of note, National Defence remains on track to commence the rollout of JAIMS 2.0 in the fall of 2024. A Chief of Defence Staff Implementation Order will be disseminated at that time, to direct the use and compliance of the software throughout the CAF.

The rollout of JAIMS 2.0 will be completed by the end of summer 2025.

JAIMS Training Practices and User Feedback

National Defence has continued to incorporate user feedback in its development of the Electronic Performance Support System (EPSS). EPSS is a combination of help files and software links that will provide users with support to navigate the system effectively, ensuring data accuracy. EPSS will be fully implemented following the roll-out of JAIMS in summer 2025.

Planning for EPSS was completed ahead of schedule in December 2023. The Canadian Forces Training Development Centre's Learning Support Centre is providing instructional design to edit content and is also developing an associated virtual assistance function. EPSS content development is underway and is expected to be finalized by December 31, 2024.

Future updates to the Committee

Continued development and implementation of JAIMS will allow National Defence to directly address many of the Auditor General's key findings, as well as recommendation 50 in the Report of the Third Independent Review Authority to the Minister of National Defence (Fish Report), which is to develop and begin operating JAIMS as soon as possible. To this end, National Defence remains on track to finalize the development and rollout of JAIMS 2.0 by summer 2025 and will provide a corresponding update to the Committee by 30 June 2025.