





## **Ms Simona Rocchi,** Chief Legal Adviser, Director Legal Office

Ms Simona Rocchi assumed the post of Legal Adviser for the NATO Communications and Information (NCI) Agency as of 1 July 2012.

The NCI Agency Legal Adviser provides advice on all matters that may have legal implications for the functions, operations and activities of the NCI Agency. In particular, the Legal Adviser has the prime responsibility to provide legal advice on all issues concerning procurement activities, export control activities and cooperation agreements with NATO organizations and NATO/non-NATO Nations. She is a member of the Management Policy Board and of the Contracts Award Board. Since the establishment of the NCI Agency the legal office addresses legal issues for the NCI Agency headquartered in Brussels, for the major locations in The Hague and Mons and the sectors located in 12 countries.

The Legal Adviser provides also advice to the NCIO Agency Supervisory Board and its Chairperson, as needed.

Ms Rocchi has over 20 years of extensive legal experience at progressively senior levels. She joined NATO in 1996 and was promoted as Head of the NATO C3 Agency (NC3A) Legal office in 2003. In addition to NC3A, and in the absence of their own legal support, she has been the NATO CIS Services Agency (NCSA) Legal Adviser until 2005, and the ALTBMD, NAGSMA and NACMA Legal Adviser until June 30, 2012.

Specialized in international law, her areas of competence cover the main activities of the Agency, i.e. contract law, public international law, legal issues related to cyber defence, export control issues, use of software, etc.

Before NATO, Ms Rocchi worked in the Legal Office of the United Nations (UN) Secretariat in New York where she acquired experience in administrative public law and was part of the legal team who drafted the UN Code of Conduct for International Civil Servants and the Guidelines for Peacekeeping Operations. For the UN, she travelled extensively for business reasons, especially in Asian countries as Technical Adviser for legal projects. In particular, she was the focal point for China on foreign direct investments sponsored by the UN.

Before moving to New York, Ms Rocchi practised law in Rome first in a law firm and then joined the legal office of a leading telecommunication company.

Ms Rocchi received an LLM from the University of Rome with a thesis in international law. She was one of the founding members of the Foreign Lawyers Group in New York and attended the 2008 Senior Managers Government Programs at Harvard University.

Ms Rocchi is married and has two children.

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