

Curriculum Vitae of

Colonel (GS) NLD Army Henny Snellen

Deputy Director of the Civil-Military Co-operation Centre of Excellence



Colonel Henny Snellen was born on 18 September 1961 in Breda, The Netherlands. She joined the Armed Forces in November 1978. After graduating from officers training in 1982 she held posts as an officer of military administration. After the Dutch government decided to open up all military trades for both men and woman and after having succeeded the artillery officers training she was transferred to the Artillery Corps in 1988. From that moment on she held several posts as an artillery officer amongst which battery commander (both M109 Bt and Staff Support Bt).

In 1994 she participated in the Secondary Military Education at the Institute for Defence Studies (IDL) in the vicinity of The Hague. After which postings at the Army staff and MOD followed.

In 1999 she graduated at the University of Utrecht Law Faculty and from then on she was posted as a Legal Advisor at the 1(GE/NL) Corps in Munster (GE). In this period she was deployed for 7 months as legal advisor to the Dutch Contingent Commander in Bosnia-Herzegovina. On completion of two and a half years in Munster, she successively became head of the appeal section of the administrative law division of the Army Staff and head of the Criminal and Disciplinary branch of the Army Staff. In 2002 she was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel and became head of the legal affairs division of the National Army Support Command. From 2004 to 2006 she was the Legal Advisor to the Director of Operations of the Defence Staff. During this posting she was deployed to Iraq, Bosnia and Afghanistan for reconnaissance, fact finding missions, evaluations, etc.

From October 2006 till her posting at the CCOE in November 2009 she was a senior staff officer at the Policy Support Branch of the Army staff. In this position she participated in some major reorganization projects of Defence capabilities on behalf of the Commander of the Army Staff. During this posting she was deployed to Afghanistan twice. First as Chief Legal Advisor to the Dutch/Australian Task Force in Uruzgan and later as Chief Legal Advisor to Regional Command South in Kandahar.

Particularly in her appointments at the 1(GE/NL) Corps and during her deployments Colonel Snellen was involved in Civil Military Interaction and was working closely together with CIMIC and CIVMIL personnel.

Since November 2009 she took up the post as Deputy Director and Chief of Staff of the CIMIC Centre of Excellence.

Colonel Snellen lives with her partner in The Hague.