



Contact: Michael Safianik
(202) 778 4945; msafianik@acus.org

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GENERAL JAMES L. JONES USMC (ret.) ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Washington, DC (May 18, 2007) – The Atlantic Council has elected General James L. Jones USMC (ret.), the recent Supreme Allied Commander Europe and former Commandant of the Marine Corps, as Chairman of its Board of Directors effective June 1.

“Jim Jones has provided exceptional leadership to the NATO alliance playing a key role in the community’s enlargement, expanded capabilities and its first missions beyond Europe.” said Atlantic Council President and CEO Frederick Kempe. *“No one has a better understanding of the critical role NATO plays in ensuring global security and prosperity or is more sought after for his counsel and experience. I, and the staff and board of the Atlantic Council, look forward to working with General Jones to fulfill our mission of Renewing the Atlantic Community for 21st Century Global Challenges.”*

“I am proud that the Atlantic Council has entrusted me with this important challenge,” said General Jones. *“The Atlantic Council will continue to play a critical role in promoting cooperation between Europe and the United States on security issues, such as missile defense and nuclear proliferation to global challenges such as economic integration, climate change and energy security.”*

In announcing the appointment Ambassador Henry Catto, the Council’s chairman of the past eight years, said: *“The well-being of the Atlantic Council and the Atlantic community have been my major preoccupation throughout the last decades. Jim Jones is just the kind of a leader to carry the torch forward.”*

The Executive Committee of the Atlantic Council Board praised Ambassador Catto for his enormous devotion and contribution to the Council during a period of exceptional challenges for the Euro-Atlantic Community. He will continue his active affiliation as the Council’s first Chairman Emeritus with a continued Executive Committee seat.

On February 1, 2007, General Jones completed 40 years of active duty service in the Marine Corps. As Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, he had several accomplishments of historic importance, among them overseeing the accession of seven new nations into NATO in 2004; the participation of over 50,000 NATO troops in “out of area” missions on three continents; and the creation of the Alliance’s newest military capability, the NATO Response Force. General Jones also led the transformation of the U.S. European Command’s basing and forward presence strategies in Europe, the Near East, and in Africa. During his forty-year military career he earned the Defense Distinguished Service Medal four times, the Silver Star and the Bronze Star for combat in Vietnam, and many other decorations.

For additional biographical notes on General James L. Jones and more information about the Atlantic Council, please visit our website <http://www.acus.org> or contact Michael Safianik at (202) 778-4945 or msafianik@acus.org.

The Atlantic Council of the United States promotes constructive U.S. leadership and engagement in international affairs based on the central role of the Atlantic Community in meeting the global challenges of the 21st Century.