

GLOBAL AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT FORUM ON CIVIL/MILITARY COOPERATION

ICAO Headquarters, Montréal, Canada
19 to 21 October 2009



Group Captain

Debra Barber

**Deputy Head Defence Airspace and Air Traffic Management (Airspace) Ministry of Defence
United Kingdom**



Group Captain Debra (Deb) Barber joined the Royal Air Force in April 1984. Following initial officer training she completed ATC professional training at the Central School of Air Traffic Control at RAF Shawbury between December 1984 and May 1985. This was followed by 3 tours at HQ 1 Gp airfields, Honington and Odiham as an Air Traffic Control Officer and Marham as Deputy Senior Air Traffic Control Officer and Local Examining Officer.

She returned to RAF Shawbury in October 1994 to complete the Area Radar course, which was followed by a posting to the London Air Traffic Control Centre (Military). Promoted to Squadron Leader in March 1995, she remained at LATCC (Mil) taking on the role of Senior Military Supervisor before a further internal posting to OC Emergency and Air Traffic Services Squadron, which included the Distress & Diversion Cell and the then Tactical Booking Cell. Staff duties followed at HQ Military Air Traffic Operations, where she was responsible for airspace issues and the UK's 2 military ATCCs at West Drayton and Prestwick, together with planning for the new Swanwick Centre. Promoted to Wing Commander in July 2000, her key responsibilities included

overseeing preparations for transfer of military operations to Swanwick, and co-chairing with a NATS colleague, the Joint Future Airspace Design Team (JFADT), tasked with reviewing and redesigning UK national airspace.

She completed the MOD's Advanced Command & Staff Course between September 2001 and July 2002, which was followed by a posting to the MOD, Directorate of Military Operations in the Conventional Arms Control branch. She then went on to command Swanwick (Mil), the military element of the London Area Control Centre, before completing a 4-month tour of duty as Chief of Staff and OC Operations Wing, at Basrah Air Station in Iraq. This was followed by a short tour as Personal Staff Officer to DCINC Personnel/Air Member for Personnel before promotion to Group Captain on 1 July 2007. She is currently employed in 2 roles – Deputy Head of the Defence Airspace and Air Traffic Management Directorate (Airspace), where she is the MOD lead for airspace, ATM and CNS issues in support of the Assistant Chief of the Air Staff, and Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff ATM Force Delivery, with responsibility for the delivery, sustainment and development of all Royal Air Force ATC services.