IDARM PRESS RELEASE:

IDARM conducts one-week “Logistics and Life Cycle Management” course during 3-7 August 2015 in Pretoria, South Africa

The International Defense Acquisition Resource Management (IDARM) program within the Center for Civil-Military Relations (CCMR) conducted a “Logistics and Life Cycle Management” course in Pretoria, South Africa during 3-7 August, 2015. This was the first course delivered by the IDARM Program in South Africa and was attended by 42 participants representing all branches of the South African National Defense Force (SANDF) as well as the state-owned entity ARMSCOR (Armaments Corporation of South Africa); the strongest representation was from the Logistics branch of SANDF. The five day course examined the components and characteristics of effective logistics systems including an overview of the US acquisition process with an emphasis on how logistics is integrated into that process; an overview of the US DOD approach to logistics planning and the management of key logistics elements; the presentation of methods for multi-criteria decision analysis used in the US DOD; a Life Cycle Cost (LCC) model which integrates readiness outcomes; the identification of key system parameters that can be used to improve readiness or reduce cost; and the measurement of risk associated with readiness and LCC. As a general impression, students seemed highly motivated and well trained, and receptive to the material presented. There was particular interest in the parallels between SANDF and US acquisition and logistics frameworks in addition to the models and methods of analysis and performance measurement that was presented. IDARM plans to continue engagement with South Africa to provide additional coursework in managing logistics capability.