



## **TWENTY-SEVENTH MEETING OF THE ICG PROVIDERS' FORUM**

**Vienna, Austria**

**Tuesday, 6 June 2023 (Hybrid format)**

***Venue: Conference Room CR-7 (C-Building, 7<sup>th</sup> floor), Vienna International Centre (VIC)***

### **SUMMARY**

The 27<sup>th</sup> Providers' Forum meeting was held in hybrid format on 6 June 2023 in Vienna. The meeting was chaired by Pieter DE SMET of the European Commission. The meeting agenda is attached (see Annex I).

The meeting noted the United States' presentation on "Introduction of ICG Liaisons to Interagency Operations Advisory Group: The Importance of GNSS for Space Ops & Science: Keep Advancing!!". It was noted that the National Space-Based Positioning, Navigation and Timing (PNT) Advisory Board (National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)-sponsored) held its 27<sup>th</sup> session in November 2022 and developed recommendation for a National-level event to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1973 commencement of the Global Positioning System (GPS) programme.

The meeting took note of a proposal, made by James Miller of NASA, the United States, for a panel on "The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the GPS programme" to be held in conjunction with the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG-17) in Madrid on 16 October 2023. It was noted that Dr. Bradford Parkinson, the First Vice Chair, National Based PNT Advisory Board, as well as the GNSS providers had been invited to contribute to this panel.

The meeting further noted that the China Satellite Navigation Conference (CSNC), was held on 26 – 28 April 2023 in Beijing and its main focus was on promoting high-quality construction, application, and development of China's BeiDou Navigation Satellite System (BDS).

The meeting took note of the report from the Interagency Operations Advisory Group (IOAG) to ICG. The briefing was made by Joel Parker of NASA, the United States and Werner Enderle of the European Space Agency (ESA). It was noted that ICG-IOAG liaisons continued to represent ICG within areas of coordination, focused on space user timing, standards, and lunar PNT activities in the ICG Working Group B Space Use Subgroup (SUSG) work packages. The meeting also noted that coordination between GNSS and lunar PNT architecture was critical to ensure interoperability, compatibility, and availability of combined "system of systems" for space users.

A summary of the 10<sup>th</sup> Interference Detection and Mitigation (IDM) workshop held on 6 December 2022 in Vienna was presented by Rick Hamilton of the United States. It was noted that presentations made at the December workshop were available at the ICG information portal at: <https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/icg/working-groups/s/idm10.html>

The meeting noted that the United Nations-affiliated regional centres for Space Science and Technology Education carried out the nine -month postgraduate courses on GNSS in the academic year 2022/2023. It was also noted that one-week training course on “The Applications of GNSS” was planned to take place at the African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education-in English Language (ARCSSTE-E), in Ile-Ife, Nigeria. The course would be co organized by the Centre and the National Time Service Centre of China.

The report on a multi-GNSS demonstration project in the Asia/Oceania (MGA) region was provided by Satoshi Kogure of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), Japan. The meeting noted that the 14<sup>th</sup> Multi-GNSS Asia (MGA) Annual Conference entitled “Enhancing Resilience in the Greater Mekong Subregion” was scheduled to take place from 30 January to 2 February 2024 in Chiang Rai, Thailand.

Regarding the agenda of the ICG-17 meeting, it was noted that the additional rooms would be needed for the joint working groups/subgroups meetings, and that the working group co-chairs would inform the ICG Executive Secretariat well in advance so that arrangements for the conference rooms made accordingly.

Regarding the agenda of the 28<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Providers’ Forum to be held on 15 and 19 October 2023 in Madrid, it was noted that the draft agenda of the 28<sup>th</sup> Providers’ Forum would be prepared by the ICG Executive Secretariat and distribute to the ICG points of contact. The meeting noted expressions of interest by China and the United States to chair the forthcoming meetings of the Providers’ Forum in 2024.

The meeting was informed by the Chair of the applications for membership in ICG submitted by Algeria on 31 May 2023 (see Annex II), Pakistan on 4 January 2021 (see Annex III), Türkiye on 7 February 2023 (see Annex IV). The meeting also took note of Pakistan’s Note Verbale (Aide Memoire dated 24 May 2023, see Annex V) and the Republic of Korea’s application of change of Member Status in ICG as “***Current and future space-based regional or augmentation system providers***” dated 7 February 2023 (see Annex VI). It was noted that these applications were to be considered at the ICG-17 meeting in October 2023, in Madrid.