



## **Twelfth Meeting of the Providers' Forum**

**United Nations Office at Vienna, Vienna International Centre**

**10 June 2014  
Vienna, Austria**

### **Summary of Discussions**

The Twelfth Meeting of the Providers' Forum, co-chaired by Mr. Pieter De Smet of the European Commission and Mr. Xiancheng Ding of China, was held on 10 June 2014 in Vienna, Austria in conjunction with the 57<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), 11 – 20 June 2014. The meeting agenda is attached (see Annex I) herewith.

China, Japan, the Russian Federation and the United States, as well as the European Union, were represented at the meeting. The list of attendees is attached (see Annex II) herewith.

### **Open service information dissemination and Service performance monitoring**

The meeting noted that the updated template to include observed or expected open service performance would be presented by the Working Group A (WG A) at the Ninth Meeting of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG-9) in Prague. It was noted that a preliminary draft would be discussed at the WG A inter-sessional meeting in Geneva, 16 – 18 July 2014.

The meeting further noted that the Working Group B was working with the service providers to complete and formally submit the space service volume (SSV) templates to the ICG-9 meeting.

### **Spectrum protection: interference detection and mitigation**

The Meeting noted that the outcomes of the Task Groups meetings would be presented at the ICG-9 meeting in Prague.

### **ICG Information Centres**

The ICG Executive Secretariat informed that an education curriculum on GNSS had been made available to the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations. It was noted that the UN-affiliated Regional Centres for Africa, located in Morocco and Nigeria, had begun the first nine-month post-graduate course on GNSS in September 2013 and in January 2014 respectively.

It was noted that Lecture Notes for introductory of the BeiDou Navigation Satellite System was scheduled to be given by the representatives of China at the African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education - in French Language (CRASTE-LF) in Rabat, Morocco, on 4 – 6 July 2014.

The providers were invited to support the Regional Centres by giving lectures on their systems and future perspectives of GNSS .

### **ICG Information Portal**

The meeting noted that the new domain name “ icgnss.org” had been requested and was awaiting for the response of the United Nations Information Technology Unit.

It was also noted that the page on the history of the ICG could have an interactive timeline of any important events, recommendations, meetings. The providers therefore were invited to provide information/photos to generate this timeline.

### **Report on a multi-GNSS demonstration project in the Asia/Oceania region**

The representative of Japan delivered a presentation “Report on Multi-GNSS Demonstration Project in the Asia-Oceania Region” on behalf of the Multi-GNSS Asia (MGA) Secretariat. A brief presentation is available on the ICG Information Portal at:

<http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/SAP/gnss/icg/providersforum.html>

It was noted that this project was unique due to the fact that the number of usable modernized navigation satellites were expected to increase much faster the Asia/Oceania than in other regions. This project would encourage GNSS signal and service providers and users in the Asia and Oceania region to develop new applications, and carry out joint experiments and demonstrations projects. It was also noted that at the 5<sup>th</sup> Asia Oceania Regional Workshop held in Vietnam in December 2013, the five multi-GNSS joint experiments were endorsed to be implemented.

The Meeting noted that the 6<sup>th</sup> Asia Oceania Regional Workshop on GNSS were scheduled to be held in Phuket, Thailand, 9 – 11 October 2014.

### **Future role and work of the ICG and its Providers’ Forum**

On occasion of the ICG-9 meeting, the providers suggested to have a meeting of the providers with the ICG members devoted fully or partially to discussing a particular topic related to (i) the established mechanisms to reach users (for example, the work of the Civil Global Positioning System Service Interface Committee (CGSIC) related to the needs of civil Global Positioning System (GPS) users; Galileo Operation Centre of the European Union; Information Analytical Centre of Global Navigation Satellite System (GLONASS) of the Russian Federation etc.); (ii) the current work of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) on the aviation requirements, and of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for maritime users for a future GNSS.

It was also suggested to consider the question such as: How other organizations are working and what are their work plans if any?

The Meeting noted that there was a wide range of the GNSS user groups. Some of them were well established as ICAO, yet others were rather fragmented (for example, road application users or regional users) and therefore it would be difficult to define/categorize these users groups.

The view was expressed that the Providers' Forum should coordinate all the activities related to the ICG working groups, taking into account that three working groups were working on the same topics "Applications of GNSS".

The views were expressed that it would be difficult for the Providers' Forum to coordinate the work of the working groups, but the working groups should make efforts to organize their work.

The question was raised as to whether or not a "Providers' Forum - ICG members" session should be organized in the future ICG meetings, as the initial idea of this joint session was to set up a users' forum.

The view was expressed that the working groups were playing a key role in the implementation of the ICG workplan, and it would be difficult to put in extra effort. Therefore, no need to establish a users' forum.

The Meeting agreed that a set of questions that could frame the discussions should be prepared for the joint session by the co-chairs of the Providers' Forum (European Commission and China).

### **ICG Booklet to mark the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICG in 2015**

The Meeting agreed that the ICG publication "Current and Planned Global and Regional Navigation Satellite Systems and Satellite-based Augmentation Systems", published in 2010, should be updated to include updated information on the navigation systems; and key information about the organizations - Members, Associate Members, Observers of the ICG with a view to presenting their role and the value gained in the ICG.

The proposed context of a new publication is contained in Annex III. The 2010 template for information sharing between service providers is available in all official languages of the United Nations on the ICG Information Portal at:

<http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/SAP/gnss/icg/providersforum.html>

The Meeting agreed that content for the ICG Booklet would be compiled by the ICG Executive Secretariat by the end of September 2014 and edited by the ICG drafting group by the end of October 2014 to be presented and approved at the Ninth Meeting of the ICG in November 2014.

The Meeting requested the Secretariat to arrange a foreword by the Secretary-General.

### **Draft provisional agenda for the Thirteen Meeting of the Providers' Forum, 9 and 13 November 2014, Prague, Czech Republic**

The draft provisional agenda for the Thirteen Meeting of the Providers' Forum to be held in Prague, Czech Republic, on 9 and 13 November 2014 in conjunction with the Ninth Meeting of the ICG, was reviewed and can be found in Annex IV.

### **Other matters**

- Comments on the Agenda of the Ninth Meeting of the ICG, Prague, Czech Republic, 10 – 14 November 2014

The Meeting agreed that the Working Groups A and C would be working in parallel on Tuesday, 11 November 2014; and the Working Groups B and D would be working in parallel on Wednesday, 12 November 2014.

- ICG Working Groups recommendations

The Meeting noted that the inter-sessional meetings of the Working Groups D and A and their subgroups were scheduled to take place on 23 – 27 June 2014 in Pasadena, United States and on 16 – 18 July 2014 in Geneva, Switzerland respectively.

- Membership of the ICG (the request for Observer status of the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO))

The Meeting took note of APSCO's expression of interest (see Annex V) and agreed that the representatives of APSCO should be invited to report on APSCO's activities on the use of global navigation satellite systems (GNSS) and its applications.