

Mission Evolution Advisory Group (MEAG)

Activity report 6

The 6th meeting of the Mission Evolution Advisory Group (MEAG) was held on 12 September 2013 in Brussels, and was chaired by the chairman. 16 out of the 21 appointed members were present (4 cancellations, 1 did not show up); + observers: Only the observers from ESA, GSA and EASA attended the meeting.

The objectives of the meeting were:

1. To present the results of the task force that was put in place to study OS Authentication,
2. To present the new elements that have been included in the mission evolution roadmap,
3. To further detail possible R&D topics to be funded in the upcoming "Horizon 2020" programme and request input from the group on R&D Priorities.

These objectives have been partly achieved (*priorities for R&D topics not established*).

Some specific points to note:

- § The chairman provided a short welcome address to the participants. He recalled it is important that everyone contributes to the work of the group, in particular by fulfilling the actions recorded during meetings.
- § The Secretary recalled that following a request by European Parliament, all groups of experts of the European Commission shall be reviewed with the aim to avoid conflict of interests. Concrete measure is to avoid that employees from private business or organisations are appointed members in their "personal capacity". If this is the case, they shall be re-categorized as members of an organisation and the organisation becomes the appointed member. The Secretary thanked all members who have been affected by this measure and who have swiftly provided an answer. The group is now fully compliant with the new applicable rules. Question is raised on whether a given organization could now send a different representative at the meeting; EC clarified that this is technical possible, provided EC receives a letter from the organisation appointing a new representative at MEAG.
- § The MEAG Taskforce endorses the idea of OS-Authentication; there is a clear need in several user communities to have access to an authentication service on the OS. From a technological point of view, the introduction of an authenticated navigation message does not require specific receiver architecture. The Task Force has satisfactorily achieved its objective, and EC expressed its satisfaction on the way it had been managed. The Task Force has no further assignment and is therefore formally disbanded after this meeting.
- § EC introduced the revised European Mission Evolution Roadmap (EGMER), with particular focus in the Mission Evolution Direction Framework. The MEAG is invited to provide at next meeting its comments on the proposed directions.
- § Following previous meeting action, MEAG members were invited to generate GNSS-related R&D ideas that they think should receive funding in H2020. In total, 30 proposals have been received, from 5 members. Members were invited to present orally their ideas and expose the rationale for them.