

Mission Evolution Advisory Group (MEAG)

Activity report 7

The 7th meeting of the Mission Evolution Advisory Group (MEAG) was held on 10 December 2013 in Brussels, and was chaired by the chairman. 13 out of the 21 appointed members were present (5 cancellations, 3 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 new structure of the MEAG,
2. To review the Mission Evolution Roadmap
3. To present and agree on the objectives for 2014

These objectives have been fully achieved.

Some specific points to note:

- § The chairman provided a short welcome address to the participants. He provided an overview of the agenda today, in particular by announcing the intention to change approach in the MEAG meetings for efficiency. He suggested structuring every meeting in 3 parts: (1) a debrief from the programme status to the experts should always take place; this may include speech/presentation from EC, GSA and/or ESA; (2) a discussion on one or two particular topics that are of interest to the programme; (3) the rest of the meeting shall be devoted to the core task of the group, say the elaboration of recommendations on Mission Evolution.
- § EC recalled briefly the achievements made in 2013. In particular, EC mentioned that the budget for the next 7 years had been recently agreed, thus guaranteeing the continuity of the European Satellite Navigation programmes. ESA debriefed the experts on the status of the IOV review that took place recently. GSA presented in a few slides the activities that are today in place to follow up the evolution of the user requirements and of the user technology: tools, methodologies, consultations, regular experts boards, observatories...
- § On the specific topic of OS-Authentication, EC debriefed the experts and presented the way forward. In particular, EC announced that in January 2014 a consolidated design will be ready, introducing 2 possible solutions to implement OS-Authentication: one option with no impact on the satellite design, and one option without.
- § EC presented the status of the updated Mission Evolution Roadmap, highlighted the main changes and described the schedule and objectives for 2014. Experts were then invited to express their comments on the new version of the EGMER. A few comments only were received. EC thanked the experts, but insisted in receiving the group's position on EGMER instead of individual comments. EC invited the chairman to manage the collection of comments and to prepare a consolidated position of the MEAG on the EGMER that can be discussed during the meeting.
- § EC recalled the achievements of MEAG since 2011, and thanked the experts for their contribution. Concrete result of this work is indeed the EGMER, which is now more robust. EC recalled that the MEAG was put in place to propose and evaluate potential evolutions of the mission objectives and the service definitions for the European satellite navigation programmes Galileo and EGNOS; as the first phase has now been achieved (identification of potential mission evolution), the MEAG shall now concentrate on the evaluation of the proposed directions. This will be the main focus for 2014, and the group is expected to organize its work along this objective.