SPACE POLICY EXPERT GROUP:  
ACTIVITY REPORT JULY 2010 - JUNE 2011

The Space Policy Expert Group was officially set-up in July 2010, following several more informal meetings with representatives of the Member States in the first half of the year dedicated mostly to space procurement issues. The main purpose of the group is to provide expert advice to the Commission in the formulation of its policies and programmatic proposals in the area of Space. Since its official start, this group has held two meetings:

1. Meeting on 14th September 2010

As a main topic on the agenda the Commission presented the key messages emerging from its reflections on the main building blocks of an EU space policy. Member States welcomed this opportunity to share their views on a future EU role in space matters, the basis for which is provided in Article 189 of TFEU. Member States, in their majority, supported the main ideas presented by the Commission.

2. Meeting on 18th January 2011

The meeting discussed the following aspects of EU space policy: space industrial policy, strengthening partnerships with the Member States, space and security, and international relations. Member States largely supported the Commission’s analysis of the European space industrial sector and objectives to be achieved through a space industrial policy. Delegations further exchanged views on the need for improved governance of space programmes and activities in Europe and, particularly, on the ways in which the EU and its Member States should interact in order to fulfil the obligations under Art. 189 TFEU. Commission updated delegations on its major space-related international activities planned in 2011.

The next meeting of the group is scheduled for 20th July 2011.

For further details:
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