

Mission Evolution Advisory Group (MEAG)

Activity report

The 3rd meeting of the Mission Evolution Advisory Group (MEAG) was held on 6 September 2012 in Brussels, and was chaired by the chairman. 15 out of the 22 appointed members were present (5 cancellations, 2 did not show up); + observers: ESA, SESAR JU, EASA and GSA were present. The observer from EOIG did not attend.

The objectives of the meeting were:

1. To debrief on the outcomes of the review exercise,
2. To present the structure of the mission evolution roadmap and identify the expected contributions from MEAG,
3. To consolidate the mission evolution areas.

These objectives have been achieved.

Some specific points to note:

- During the previous assignment, MEAG members were requested to provide their views on the EGNSS Mission Evolution Drivers (MED). These views have been analysed, sorted and grouped into a single list, composed with the views from EC, MEAG and from ESA, to help with the identification and classification of the drivers.
- EC presented the draft Mission Evolution Roadmap (MER): scope, structure, table of content. The document is top-down structured, covering four key areas:
 - a description of the strategic objectives of the European Union,
 - an analysis of the context and underlying assumptions that drive the choices to be made,
 - an identification and derivation of the major evolution drivers from these analyses,
 - a focus on the implementation aspects, establishing relevant action plans
- 3 task forces have been put in place to address in more details specific topics: the user requirements evolution, the user technology evolution, and the system capability evolution; the chairman suggested that each task force be led by one of the MEAG co-chairs. The objective of the task forces is two-fold:
 - To provide an expertise on specific areas which have been identified for the analysis of the evolution of the GNSS context,
 - To build upon this analysis to review the classification of the major evolution drivers, using as a basis the current preliminary definition of mission evolution drivers and modifying it if necessary.
- GSA presented a tool it has developed, the GNSS Market Monitoring and Forecasting Process (MMFP), which objective is to provide inputs for EU strategy development and funding priorities. 6 priorities emerged from the analysis: LBS, road, aviation, agriculture, surveying and maritime. Nevertheless, the group recalled that criteria for putting priority is not necessarily a function of the market size other criteria such as criticality of the infrastructure, or emerging trends, may well be considered to set priorities.