

Mission Evolution Advisory Group (MEAG)

Activity report 5

The 5th meeting of the Mission Evolution Advisory Group (MEAG) was held on 9 April 2013 in Brussels, and was chaired by the chairman. 14 out of the 22 appointed members were present (5 cancellations, 3 did not show up); + observers: Only the observers from ESA and EASA attended the meeting.

The objectives of the meeting were:

1. To collect last comments from the group on the roadmap
2. To request feedback and analysis from the group on the opportunity to develop OS authentication
3. To present the upcoming “Horizon 2020” programme, and request input from the group on R&D priorities.

These objectives have been fully achieved.

Some specific points to note:

- The chairman mentioned that the level of participation of the experts in the group should be improved, and that generally more involvement and commitment from the MEAG members was expected. He suggested that more interactions may be required within the group in the future to foster and keep the momentum of the group.
- The secretary gave a quick debrief on the outcomes of the workshop with Member States, which took place the week before. During the discussion of this debrief, it was recalled that the purpose of EGMER V1 is to propose high level Directions for the evolutions of the EGNSS Missions rather than expanding on specific implementation option.
- ESA made a quick presentation of the status of the Galileo programme, in particular with regards to the recent achievement of the position fix with the 4 Galileo IOV satellites.
- During a round table discussion, each member was further invited to provide his/her appreciation on the Draft EGMER V1 distributed end of January 2013. Comments have been noted, and will be considered to elaborate the next version of the roadmap.
- GSA made a presentation on OS authentication, and called for MEAG’s expertise to comment on this initiative. In order to do so, the chairman proposed to put in place a task force (TF) in charge of analysing the expected benefits and constraints of such an authentication scheme in various user communities. The result of the TF will be presented at the next MEAG meeting, September 12th, 2013.
- EC introduced the next European framework programme for R&D (“Horizon 2020”), and gave details about the planning and expected budget. MEAG is requested to contribute to the definition of R&D topics in the field of GNSS, and are invited to identify European strengths and weaknesses in the R&D GNSS area and to provide recommendations for the H2020 GNSS R&D plan. EC will distribute an inquiry form that MEAG experts will have to fill in with their ideas and proposals.