

International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems

Working Group A- Compatibility and Interoperability

Status of Activities

Actions from the Original ICG Work Plan*

*** From UN General Assembly Document A/AC.105/879, 29 December 2006, Meeting of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (Vienna, 1 and 2 November 2006)**

Action A1: Establish a Providers Forum to enhance compatibility and interoperability among current and future global and regional space-based systems.

Status: COMPLETE

Action A2: Organize a workshop(s) on measures being taken by Members, Associate Members and Observers to enhance interoperability and compatibility of 1) global and regional space-based systems and 2) regional ground-based DGNSS.

Status: Activities are underway (see ICG-2 new action 4.)

Action A3: Survey the level of interoperability and standardization among GNSS constellations and augmentations in order to identify concrete steps that can be taken at different levels (regulatory, system implementation, user algorithms) to improve interoperability and standardization. It is expected that the situation is well advanced in civil aviation and maritime, therefore, the effort would probably need to concentrate on land-based applications and users.

Status: Activities are underway (see ICG-2 new actions 3. through 5.)

Action A4: Consider guidelines for the broadcast of natural disaster alarms via GNSS.

Status: currently no activity

Action A5: Develop a strategy for ICG support of mechanisms to detect and mitigate sources of electromagnetic interference, taking existing regulatory mechanisms into consideration.

Status: Discussed at ICG-2 (see ICG-2 new action 2.)

Recommendations and New Actions from ICG-2

Recommendation 1. Co-chairs to present working group's proposed revisions to the definition of interoperability to the Providers Forum for consideration – An associated

recommendation on timing and geodesy has been prepared for consideration by the ICG after review by Working Group A and in cooperation with Working Group D (Attachment 2).

Status: Modified definitions should be reviewed by the working groups and the Providers Forum at ICG-3 and formally adopted or rejected.

New Action 1. BIPM participants volunteered to draft a paper recommending the elimination of the leap second from UTC to submit to the ITU timing subcommittee after review by the ICG (Attachment 1).

Status: Paper was submitted to the ITU timing subcommittee as an informal ICG input without full Committee approval. At the February 2008 ICG planning meeting, the United States and the Russian Federation formally opposed the official submission of this recommendation. However, the issue may be discussed again at ICG-3.

New Action 2. India volunteered to develop a paper on examples of interference to GNSS receivers from other radiocommunications services that occur despite compliance with ITU or domestic spectrum management regulations.

Status: Unknown. No further discussions with Indian WG-A participants have occurred since ICG-2.

New Action 3. FIG and IGS to draft a paper on the relative importance of different aspects of satellite navigation system interoperability from the perspective of various user applications.

Status: A status report has been requested from FIG and IGS. A draft paper would be useful to have prior to the Montreal ICG Experts Meeting, July 15, 2008

New Action 4. The Russian Federation, the United States, India, and FIG to form a subgroup to develop an agenda for an exchange of views on interoperability between system providers and representatives for various user applications, to include industry -- Session may occur during regional GNSS workshops being planned by the ICG Secretariat (UN OOSA).

Status: An Agenda has been developed for the ICG Experts Meeting in Montreal and presenters are being identified. Specific questions for presenters and proposed focus topics for the 1.5 hour session to be facilitated by the WG-A co-chairs still need to be completed.

New Action 5. EUPOS and IGS to draft a definition of interoperability applicable to ground-based DGNSS networks to provide to the working group for consideration

Status: A status report has been requested from EUPOS and IGS. A draft paper would be useful to have prior to the Montreal ICG Experts Meeting, July 15, 2008