



TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING OF THE ICG PROVIDERS' FORUM

Vienna, Austria

Monday, 6 June 2022 (Hybrid format)

Time: 13:00 – 16:00 (Vienna (Austria) Local Time (UTC+2)) hours

Venue: Conference Room CR-1 (C-Building, 2nd floor), Vienna International Centre (VIC)

SUMMARY

The 25th Providers' Forum meeting was held in hybrid format on 6 June 2022 in Vienna. The meeting was chaired by S. Gadimova, ICG Executive Secretariat. The meeting agenda and presentations made are available on the ICG information portal on the website of the Office for Outer Space Affairs (<https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/icg/providers-forum/meetings.html>).

The meeting noted that China's BeiDou Satellite Navigation System (BDS) continued to improve performance, expand applications and had achieved sustained, stable and rapid development. Also, search and rescue (SAR) service was one of the major services provided by BDS-3 system. BDS-3 system adopted the architecture of regional up-link stations and crosslinks between satellites to provide a return link service (RLS) for distressed people worldwide. A variable-length message type of a return link message (RLM) was specially designed to enrich SAR operation information categories and improve SAR operation efficiency.

The meeting also noted that the China Satellite Navigation Conference (CSNC), scheduled to be held on 25 – 27 May 2022 in Beijing, was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and that new dates would be announced soon.

The summary of reports from past Interference Detection and Mitigation (IDM) workshops held from 2012 through 2021 was presented by Zhen Weimin and Jin Ruimin of China Research Institute of Radiowave Propagation, China.

A brief summary of the regional workshop on global navigation satellite systems (GNSS) and space weather held from 9 to 13 May 2022 in Rabat was given by S. Gadimova of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs. The purpose of this workshop was to give an introduction to the physics of ionosphere and to provide a basic knowledge on GNSS systems and their scientific and technological applications. Particular attention was devoted to space weather research with GNSS data in the African countries. The workshop was hosted by the African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education - in French Language (CRASTE-LF) in its capacity

as the ICG information centre. The detailed information about the workshop is available at: (<https://indico.ictp.it/event/9778/other-view?view=ictp timetable>).

The report on a multi-GNSS demonstration project in the Asia/Oceania (MGA) region was provided by Satoshi Kogure of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), Japan. The meeting took note of the MGA annual conference held on 10 – 11 March 2022 in Phuket, Thailand. It was noted that two teams were winners of the 2021 Rapid Prototype Development (RPD) Challenge. The teams were from Nepal with a project “Early Warning System for Glacial Outburst Floods” and from Thailand with the project “Real Time Water Current and Location Monitoring”. The meeting noted that the next MGA annual conference were planned to be held in February 2023 in Thailand.

With regard to the agenda of the ICG-16 meeting, it was noted that the additional rooms would be needed for the joint working groups/subgroups meetings, and that the working group co-chairs would inform the ICG Executive Secretariat well in advance so that arrangements for the conference rooms made accordingly.

The meeting took note of the report about the Interagency Operations Advisory Group (IOAG) and ICG liaison. The briefing was made by Joel Parker of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the United States and Werner Enderle of the European Space Agency (ESA). The report described the roles of the ICG Working Group B Space Use Subgroup (SUSG) work packages and their contributions to international team coordination. An outline of potential roles of ICG in coordination with other organizations (e.g. IOAG, Space Frequency Coordination Group (SFCG)) was provided.

With regard to the agenda of the 26th meeting of the Providers’ Forum to be held on 9 and 13 October 2022 in Abu Dhabi, it was agreed to include a new agenda item on “Potential areas of coordination between ICG and the international organizations”. The meeting noted that the draft agenda of the 26th Providers’ Forum would be prepared by the ICG Executive Secretariat and distribute to the ICG points of contact.

The providers agreed to establish a working group, composed of the ICG members, to review the ICG Terms of Reference. The review working group will meet in conjunction with the ICG-16 meeting on Sunday, 9 October 2022. The providers will communicate to the ICG Executive Secretariat the names of their representatives.

The meeting considered the application for an observer status in ICG received from the Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services (RTCM).