

Recommendation for Committee Decision #1

Prepared by: Working Group C on Information Dissemination and Capacity Building

Date of Submission: 5 December 2017

Issue Title: Strengthening Education and Training in global navigation satellite systems and information dissemination

Background/Brief Description of the Issue:

The development of global navigation satellite systems (GNSS) has a major influence in the creation and development of GNSS-related applications and fosters the growing global GNSS market. It is therefore essential to build capacity in the use of GNSS technologies and ensure that there is a prepared workforce for the growing opportunities in the GNSS sector.

Discussion/Analyses:

The presentations made by the representatives of Russian Space Systems company, Moscow State University of Geodesy and Cartography, Moscow Timiryazev Agricultural Academy, BeiDou Belt and Road School of Beihang University, Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology, the University of Tokyo and the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific (RCSSTEAP - China) affiliated to the United Nations highlighted their capacity building activities in promoting the use of GNSS capabilities through seminars, workshops and training courses particularly in developing nations.

The working group noted the educational resources of the European Space Agency (ESA) on GNSS technologies and applications available on its own wiki-based information source “Navipedia” (www.navipedia.net), which is a duly updated single entry point. So called, “GNSS wiki” is extremely beneficial for the entire GNSS community.

The working group also noted a cooperation with the United Nations Subcommittee on Geodesy and its focus group on Education, Training and Capacity Building, presented by the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) aiming at assessing the current availability of education, training, and capacity building resources on global geodetic reference frames.

Recommendation of Committee Action:

The working group C recommends that ICG join forces with educational institutions to strengthen and deliver targeted capacity-building and technical advisory activities with the goals of sharing ideas and expertise regarding GNSS technologies and applications, particularly encouraging participation of women and young professionals. Additionally, further research on definition of capacity-building and workforce index should be undertaken.

Consistent with this recommendation and in order to avoid duplication of efforts in sharing available educational materials, support for open data-sharing policy and real-time data accessibility should be taken into account.