

New Zealand, Item 7: Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems

Sixty-second session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space – 3-14 February 2025

It is my pleasure to take the floor in my capacity as Chair of the 18th Meeting of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG), which was held in Wellington, New Zealand, from 7 to 11 October 2024 with in-person and online attendance.

Land Information New Zealand and Geoscience Australia co-organised the meeting. Almost 300 participants from 12 Member states, the European Union, and 11 member organisations, including the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs attended the meeting. Norway, Pakistan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence were invited to attend as observers.

The ICG meeting consisted of three plenary sessions and four working groups meetings focused on systems, signals and services; enhancement of global navigation satellite systems (GNSS) performance, new services and capabilities; information dissemination and capacity-building; and reference frames, timing and applications. The working groups also made substantive progress in furthering the ICG workplan.

ICG accepted the invitation extended by the Republic of Korea to host the 19th meeting of ICG, in October 2025 in Bussan, and noted the offer made by the United States of America and India in hosting the 20th meeting of ICG in 2026, and by Malaysia in hosting the 21st meeting of ICG in 2027.

The 30th meeting of the Providers' Forum was also held in conjunction with the 18th meeting of ICG on 6 and 10 October 2024. The Providers' Forum continued to provide an effective multilateral mechanism for cooperation on GNSS.

The online version of this statement provides further detail on the endorsed ICG recommendations. On behalf of the ICG, allow me to express our appreciation for the outstanding work undertaken by the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs as the Executive Secretariat of the ICG and its Providers' Forum. Thank you.

The below content is online only (not delivered in person)

ICG discussed the recommendations of the working groups regarding the implementation of the actions set forth in their workplans. The following recommendations were endorsed:

- (a) organisation of emerging low-earth orbit positioning, navigation, and timing (LEO PNT) workshops, focused on promoting the development of standards for performance specifications and interoperability, and the interaction between emerging LEO PNT providers and ICG;
- (b) holding dedicated workshops in 2025 to discuss in more detail specific topics in the ICG workplan;
- (c) updating the ICG workplan to include among others, precise point positioning interoperability, civil signal authentication, lunar PNT compatibility with GNSS and regional navigation satellite systems;
- (d) establishment of a new working group on lunar PNT (Working Group L);
- (e) organisation of the joint ICG-Interagency Operations Advisory Group (IOAG) multilateral cislunar PNT workshop (the workshop is taking place on 11 – 13 February 2025, in Press Room, M-building, Vienna International Centre);
- (f) conducting a workshop aimed at discussing the ionospheric impacts on GNSS and joint actions to be undertaken to mitigate the ionospheric impacts on GNSS during current and future solar activity period through international collaborations. ICG Policy Brief “Natural hazards Monitoring using GNSS” is now available at the ICG informational portal.

The results of the 18th meeting of ICG and the 30th meeting of the Providers’ Forum can be found in document A/AC.105/1327 and its corrigendum A/AC.105/1327/Corr.1. All documents from the meetings can be accessed through the ICG information portal on the website of the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (www.unoosa.org).