GGOS Bureau for Communications and Networks

Breakout Session Discussion

March 26, 2008

High Level Tasks

- Promote communication and integration among the Services;
- Develop and maintain a ground network station and data product information base;
- Develop a model that predicts the accuracy and stability of the reference frame as a function of the number of co-located SLR, VLBI and GNSS stations, their geographic distribution, their data quality and yield, and other properties to address GGOS requirements;
- Estimate the size and distribution of the GNSS network necessary to provide reference frame access globally, commensurate with GGOS requirements;
- Seek an effective way to monitor inter-technique vectors at co-location sites to support the above tasks;
- Identify and facilitate the communications services necessary to support data flow from the stations through to archiving of data and data products for the users;
- Review the consistency of meteorological data and identify an activity to unify the procedures at all stations

Major Issues Discussed

- Role of gravity measurements in the ITRF and products and gravity measurements required to meet the other GGOS requirements;
- Data base of collocation vector measurements; standards, procedures, analysis, quality control and facilitation;
- Commercial support for GGOS?
- Broaden the Bureau to include the Commissions;

Responses to the Questions

- **Do we need the proposed component in the GGOS organization and why?**
  - Yes, provides guidance for the network integration
- **What are the missions, tasks, functions for the component?**
  - High level tasks as shown
  - Add task: Define the role of gravity and specify the gravity measurements to meet the GGOS requirements (WG with heavy involvement of IGFS)
  - Add collocation data base, analysis, and quality control
- **Are there other components that already do these tasks or interferences?**
  - Other organization involved with collocation survey activity (IGN, IERS WG on Site Survey, etc.) – we need to find a means of integrating them into the collocation survey activity
- **What are the outputs that we expect from this component?**
  - Delivery of the simulation tool and scoping of the geometric network;
  - Collocation vector data base
- Are the GGOS activities mainly internal or external?
  - Mainly internal to IAG (Services, Commission, etc)

Responses to the Questions

- What is the appropriate form of organization?
  - Bureau – permanent responsibilities
  - Speaks with higher impact
  - Probably organize WG's within the Bureau to address Network Scoping, Intersystem vector, role of gravity (with Commission 2), etc.
- Who should be represented on the component or/and how many people are needed?
  - Services (Network Coordinators and specialties, Commissions, etc.
  - Many people
- To whom should the component report?
  - GGOS Steering Committee
- To whom should the component link?
  - Make use of exiting IAG component links to FIG, FAGS, etc.
- How can the activity be financed?
  - Corporate sponsorship should be examined
- When and how should the component be established?
  - Time frame not too critical since many of the activities are now being done by the WG