

Charter for Space Missions Working Group (DRAFT)

version 0.1 (March 24, 2006)
Previous version (v0.0-Apr 27, 2005)

The *Context*:

- Space missions are national assets, and are proposed, budgeted and executed based on national priorities & concerns.
- The GGOS-SMWG can attempt to find windows of opportunity within the life-cycle of such projects or broader programs, and can offer input – consistent with the aims of GGOS – on mission design, configuration, data availability or usage.

The *purpose* of Space Missions Working Group (SMWG):

- In broadest terms, the purpose of SMWG is carry out the mission of GGOS as it relates to geodetic Space-based Earth Observation (EO).
- The SMWG shall be the framework to fit Space Missions into GGOS defined science needs
 - i. by actively proposing and advocating space missions.
 - ii. by defining the required or optimized observational strategies for relevance, continuity and complementariness.
 - iii. by offering a clearing-house (expertise) for interpretation of geodetic space-based EO science products for user community
 - iv. by maintaining a knowledge base of Space Missions (past and future).
- The SMWG shall provide a forum for initiating or facilitating or integrating [*“integration” to be defined*] international cooperation in space missions (including pertinent ground infrastructure) to fill the defined science needs for GGOS. The SMWG shall be the repository of history/experience in this matter.
- The SMWG shall aid the process of *definition* of the unification of products from space-based EO efforts.
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Some *proposed activities* are:

- Some are already defined under “*purpose*” – in addition:
- Reach out to involve national space-based EO efforts.
- Prepare & maintain (on-going) a “wish-list” of space missions and opportunities for collaboration.
- Influence & provide expertise to the other WG within GGOS on aspects

related to geodetic space-based EO – either upon request, or autonomously.