

CGMS MEMBERSHIP EXPANSION

(Submitted by WMO)

Summary and purpose of document

To inform CGMS Members of the WMO proposal to expand the CGMS Membership to include CNES as a CGMS Member.

ACTION PROPOSED

CGMS Members to approve the expansion of its Membership to include CNES as a CGMS Member.

DISCUSSION

Background

1. At CGMS-XXX, CGMS Members noted the expansion of the space-based component of the GOS to include appropriate R&D satellite missions, in particular, the confirmed commitments by NASA, ESA, NASDA and Rosaviakosmos. At CGMS-XXX WMO recommended that NASA, ESA, NASDA and Rosaviakosmos be considered for full membership in CGMS and all CGMS Members agreed to include ESA, NASA, NASDA and Rosaviakosmos as CGMS Members, with the understanding that these Agencies will contribute to the space-based component of the Global Observing System by providing access to their R&D satellite mission data.

Proposal

2. Since CGMS-XXX, another space agency, CNES, has made a formal and firm commitment to include Jason-1 and SPOT-5 as part of the space-based component of the GOS. Thus, WMO recommends that CNES be considered for full membership in CGMS.

Related activities

3. As noted in WMO WP-15, China's National Space Agency (CNSA) expressed the wish to join CGMS at the third session of the Consultative Meetings on High-level Policy on Satellite Matters. In doing so, it indicated that, as an initial step, it would inform WMO of the contributions it would make to the GOS with the expectation that WMO could then make a proposal to CGMS to include CNSA as a full CGMS Member. The third session noted that the WMO Secretariat would send CNSA a copy of the *Guidelines for Requirements for Observational Data from Operational and R&D Satellite Missions* that described the availability for data, product and services from potential contributors to the space-based component of the GOS. A dialogue, both formally through written correspondence and informally through emails, has continued between CNSA and WMO since CM-3. However, CNSA will make a presentation to CGMS-XXXI as part of the CMA delegation.

4. During the Extraordinary Session of the Commission for Basic Systems (CBS) held in Cairns, Australia, in December 2002, the Commission was informed by the Republic of Korea of its plans for multi-purpose geostationary and polar-orbiting satellites as a potential contribution to the space-based component of the GOS. The Commission suggested that the Republic of Korea approach CGMS for appropriate consultations. Through discussions between WMO and the CGMS Secretariat, Korea has been invited to make a presentation to CGMS-XXXI covering its plans for geostationary and polar orbiting satellite missions.
