

4. Legal Entity for EUREF

Motivation

- **NMAs or similar institutions could ask EUREF for certifications or validations of data**
- **In the EUREF group basically a considerable amount of expertise is available, however, any statement should be formulated carefully with respect to any responsibility or claim of recourse**
- **As EUREF is no national institution, it cannot be compared e.g. with the NGS or NMAs which have defined duties on their level**
- **EUREF is strongly related to the IAG and EuroGeographics which have certain official tasks**
- **GALILEO automatically involves some degree of safety**
- **at present no European group exists to take over the duties of an official expert group in Geodesy**
- **Z. ALTAMIMI, B. HARSSON, J. IHDE (chair), J. MÄKINEN and J. A. TORRES are asked to discuss this item to develop a strategy for the future and propose their findings to the next TWG Meeting.**

Possible solutions for legal entity for EUREF

- **Connection to existing legal bodies**
 - EUROSTAT (foundation of a department geodesy)
 - Galileo Supervisory Authority
 - EuroGeographics
- **Foundation of a new legal European body**
on a national or European law e.g. an European Mapping Agency
 - a company like EuroGeographics
 - an association like EuroSDI formerly OEEPE which bases on a treaty by Irish law, 2005 EuroSDI bases on an Association/Company by Irish law
- **One legal member body of EUREF**
 - by order of the other involved institutions
 - with subcontracts between involved institutions
- **Let's have it like it is**

Legal entity for EUREF for what?

ZA:

"how EUREF envisage their technical role in European Geodesy ?"

For example, do we want to certify

- geodetic methodologies**
- geodetic products (coordinates,...)**
- geodetic tools (softwares, etc.)**

How proceed to get a legal entity for EUREF?

ZA:

- the legal entity should better be an independent entity not connected to any other existing one (EUROSTAT, EuroGeographics, etc.) to be able to play our complete role in European Geodesy.
- it should have some recognition/approval/stamp by some European high level organisation: for example EC or ESA
- some contact with EC or ESA would be really necessary and helpful
- Following Hans-Peter Plag request for certification of EGNOS methodology, and my last letter to him, ESA should come back to us (TWG) to initiate discussion. We should invite some people from ESA to attend the next TWG.

Legal entity

- An individual or organization which is legally permitted to enter into a **contract**, and to meet its contractual **obligations**
- **contract**
A binding agreement between two or more parties for performing, or refraining from performing, some specified act(s) in exchange for **lawful** consideration (private, economy, trade, national, international, European law)
- **obligation**
Any debt, written promise, or duty (e.g. guarantee, payment, product delivery)

IAG Sub-Commission EUREF

- **Best effort**
- **Members provide proposals on their own financial recourses**
- **Information, data and products distributed for free**
- **At present scientific tasks – in the future it will change to operational tasks (services, generation of products)**