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Minutes of Meeting IAA Commission IV

Space Systems Operations and Utilization

October 15, 2005

Location : Convention Centre, Fukuoka, Japan

1. List of Participants

See Attachment 1

2. Study Groups activities

Commission has 4 on-going Study Groups : Knowledge Management, Quality in Space Programs, Small Satellites Missions for Earth Observation, Cost Effective Missions for Earth Observation.

2.1 Knowledge Management (SG 4.1)

The Study Group was not represented during the Commission Meeting. The Study Group will publish a first interim report "Knowledge Management in Space Activities", outside IAA publications. The study will be continued to update the report according to the IAA publication standards.

2.2 Quality in Space Programs (SG 4.2)

M. Grimard reports on the "stand by" status of the Study Group, which has lost its chairmen and has not been active since the release of a Progress Report two years ago. The question of stopping the Study Group has been discussed by IAA Board : the Quality topic being considered very important, the Board has asked Commission 4 to try to revitalize the Study Group.

Following actions have been agreed and will be implemented :

- M. Grimard will contact ESA people who are sponsoring the new International Association for the Advancement of Space Safety, which will hold its first Symposium end of October 2005
- more focused topics will be proposed by M.Grimard for discussion by the Commission 4, as potential new targets for Study Groups in the field of Quality (e.g. problems of systematic cost and delays overruns, standards and rules for navigation systems in connection with CNS/ATM)
- when topics will have been selected, a list of potential participants will be established, R.Hornstein providing support for NASA, A.Genati for ESA, R.Sandau for DLR

2.3 Small Satellites Missions for Earth Observation (SG 4.3) and Cost Effective Missions for Earth Observation (SG 4.4)

Report on the two Study Groups has been given by R.Sandau (Attachment 2).

The 5th Symposium on Small Satellites Missions for Earth Observation, has been held in Berlin in April, 2005, with good participation, high quality papers, and for the first time an Award process. A.Valenzuela formally thanks DLR for the support in the organisation, as well as the financial support which has funded the prizes, and allowed to reduce the registration fees, opening the attendance to students and small organisations.

The Report "Cost Effective Earth Observation Missions" has gone through the Peer Review, and the updated full Report and Executive Summary are available in the IAA website. The Executive Summary will be published by IAA, while the full Report will be published by DLR (Taylor & Francis editor). A.Valenzuela thanks R.Sandau for his management of this study which has delivered very high quality reports.

2.4 New Study Group dealing with Moon Exploration

Following 2004 discussion, a Study Group dealing with Moon Exploration is proposed in continuity with the small / low cost spacecraft activities.

The purpose will be to analyse how mini/micro Moon Exploration spacecraft could be proposed as "piggy back" or "secondary passenger" in the frame of major missions to the Moon.

The proposed title of the Study is : "Hitchhiking to the Moon : Access and Opportunities for Small Satellites Missions".

L. Alkalai, USA, and Lance Wu, Taiwan, are the proposed Chairman.

A first list of people having expressed interest for the topic has been given by A.Valenzuela (Attachment 3). Commission members are asked to propose other potential participants for the Study Group.

An information meeting will be held on October 18, 2005 at 11:00.

3. Organisation of Commission 4

R.Sandau is taking over the Chair of Commission 4, and thanks A. Valenzuela for his high level commitment during his 2-year mandate.

L.Paxton has been nominated Deputy Chairman.

B.Häusler has expressed his wish to retire as Secretary, and will be replaced in this function by M.Grimard.

4. Other Business

P. Swan (Commission 6) informs about Commission 6 intent to start a study about "Space Expectations". Since it is a very wide spectrum topic, contribution from Commission 4 will be welcome. An information meeting on this new study will be held on October 19, 2005 at 10:30.

Attachment 1 : Participants list

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