Geophysical Research Abstracts
Vol. 17, EGU2015-7420, 2015
EGU General Assembly 2015

The GGOS Bureau of Networks and Observations and an Update on the Space Geodesy Networks

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The GGOS Bureau of Networks and Communications is being reorganized into the Bureau of Networks and Observations.

Although the GGOS Bureau of Networks and Communication was the Bureau of the Services, it focused primarily on the geometric techniques (VLBI, SLR, GNSS, and DORIS) that provided the foundation for the development and maintenance of the International Terrestrial Reference Frame. Over the course of the last several years the Space Geodesy networks have grown; new systems are in the process of deployment, new sites are being established following the GGOS concept of “core” sites and new technologies are implemented to enhance performance in data yield as well as accuracy. In particular, several groups are undertaking initiatives and seeking partnerships to update existing sites and expand the networks in geographic areas void of coverage.

It has also been long recognized that new data products generated by entities within and outside of GGOS will require integration with those of the geometric and non-geometric Service data in order to produce new and improved products such as a Unified Height System, improved tide and ocean models, and better hazard assessment tools.

The role of the new Bureau is now being expanded to better integrate the non-geometric Services (Gravity Service, Tide gauge networks, etc.) and to strengthen communications with the space missions, the simulation activities to project network capability, and some of the data gathering functions. The expanded Bureau will include the GGOS Working Groups on Missions, Simulations, Data and Information Systems, and it will be tightly linked to the IERS Working Group on Survey and Co-location. The reorganized Bureau will now become the GGOS Bureau of Networks and Observations.

This poster will outline the plan for the new Bureau and will give an update on the status of the ground networks that will participate as well as its other components.