Bologna, 30th April 2011

4th periodic activity report of the IERS WG on local ties and co-location sites
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WG meeting
The last meeting of the WG took place in Vienna, during the EGU 2010, on May 4th, 2010. No other meetings have taken place so far.

The next meeting is foreseen in December, 2011, during the AGU Fall meeting in San Francisco.

Ongoing activity
The WG and its chairmanship were confirmed by the IERS DB for further two years during the Paris meeting in October 2010.

Two urgent actions are required to re-burst the activity of the WG:

i. A co-chair of the WG. Since the very beginning of its activity, the WG was established by the IERS DB envisaging a possible co-chair between Dr. John Dawson (Geoscience Australia, former WG chair during 2004-2005) and myself. I am convinced that this possibility would nowadays be very appropriate. Such co-chair would efficiently support the activity of the WG and spread its results and decisions with a higher level of penetration and credibility. My professional relation with Dr. Dawson is based on profound reciprocal esteem and a similar and harmonic vision about the issues regarding local ties and co-location sites. Furthermore, I have very short travel budget for this years and most probably for the years to come. A co-chair in this particular moment would certainly allow a maximization of the number of meetings of the WG and a better exploitation of its activities.

ii. A revision of the WG members. This action is necessary as I was informed that a certain number of members aren’t in the position of contributing to the WG activity anymore. Therefore, the revision is strictly necessary to update the contribution and ensure the highest level of efficiency in the WG activity.

iii. A revision of the WG charter.

I hope the DB will approve the first item of the previous list. In that case, the two new chairmen can submit a revised list of members and a revised charter to the IERS DB for approval in the next DB meeting.