



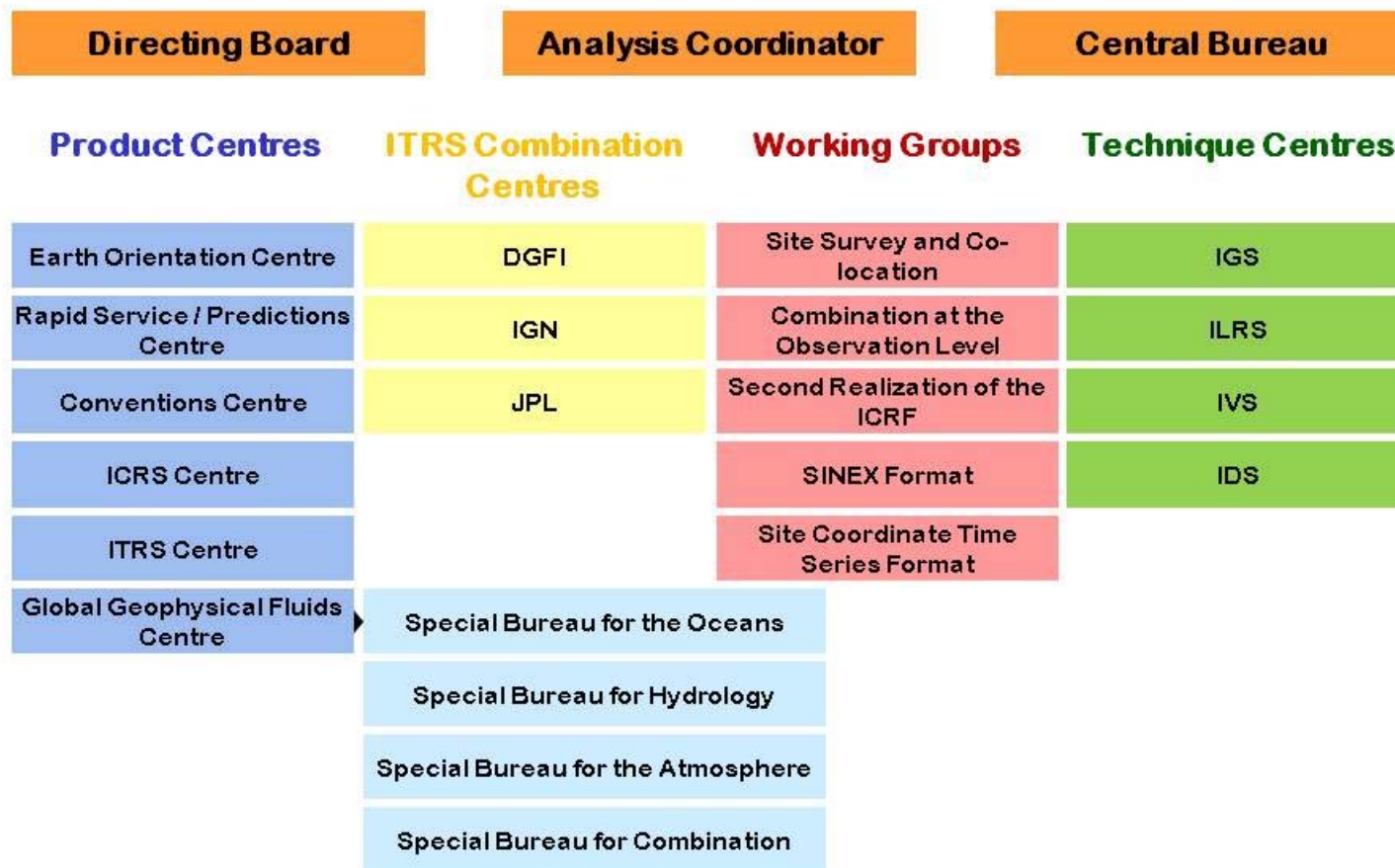
Session 7: Establish mechanisms that allow changing contributions

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IERS Components 2013





PRODUCT CENTERS (PC)

- Rapid Service/Prediction Center, responsible for publication of semiweekly (possibly daily?) bulletins of preliminary and predicted earth orientation parameters.
- ICRS Center, responsible for the maintenance of the ICRS/ICRF.

Both should remain unchanged, if possible with the same acting institutions.



PRODUCT CENTERS (PC)

- Conventions Center, under the guidance of the IERS Conventions Editorial Board, responsible for the maintenance of the IERS conventional models, constants and standards.

Relation to GGOS Bureau for Standards and Conventions (BSC)?

Who is steering the process and the results?



PRODUCT CENTERS (PC)

- Global Geophysical Fluids Center, responsible for providing relevant geophysical data sets and related computational results to the scientific community.

Relation to GGOS?

Alternatively new Bureau under the umbrella of GGOS?



PRODUCT CENTERS (PC)

- Rapid Service/Prediction Center, responsible for publication of semiweekly (possibly daily?) bulletins of preliminary and predicted earth orientation parameters.
- ITRS Center, responsible for the maintenance of the ITRS/ITRF, including network coordination (design collocation, local ties, and site quality).

Which product center shall be responsible for rigorous combination?

Do we need a new IERS component for this?



ITRS COMBINATION CENTER(S)

ITRS Combination Center(s) are responsible to provide ITRF products by combining ITRF inputs from the TCs and others. Such products are provided to the ITRS Center.

Replaced by the general type of Combination Center(s) – not only for ITRS?

RESEARCH CENTER(S)

Research Center(s) are responsible for carrying out research on a specific subject. They are established by the DB and are related to a corresponding Product Center. Research Center(s) are limited to a term of 4-5 years.

Not yet established – do we need these?

Call for Research Center(s)?

Could this be seen with respect of new IERS products?

Does a limited time span make sense?



IERS ANALYSIS COORDINATOR (AC)

The AC is responsible

- for the long-term and internal consistency of the IERS reference frames and other products,
- for ensuring the appropriate combination of the TC products into the single set of official IERS products,
- for the archiving of the products at the Central Bureau or elsewhere,
- to monitor the TC and PC activities to ensure that the IERS objectives are carried out,
- for quality control, performance evaluation, and continued development of appropriate analysis methods and standards.

The AC is elected by the DB for a term of four years with the possibility of re-election for one additional term.

The position of the Analysis Coordinator should be strengthened.



CENTRAL BUREAU (CB)

The Central Bureau is

- responsible for the general management of the IERS consistent with the directives and policies set by the Directing Board, i.e., acts as the executive arm of the Directing Board,
- facilitates communications, coordinates activities, **monitors operations (?)**, maintains documentation, archives products and relevant information and organizes reports, meetings and workshops,
- responsible for the day-to-day liaison with external organizations,
- coordinates and publishes all documents required for the satisfactory planning and operation of the Service, including standards/conventions/specifications regarding the performance, functionality and configuration requirements of all elements of the Service including user interface functions,
- operates the communication center (web site) for the IERS,
- distributes and/or maintains a hierarchy of documents and reports, both hard copy and electronic, including **network information (?)**, standards, newsletters, electronic bulletin board, directories, **summaries of performance (?)** and products, and an Annual Report.

DIRECTING BOARD (DB)

The Directing Board consists of the following members:

- ...
- Representatives of IAU, IAG/IUGG and GGOS.

Representatives of other services like IGFS?



DIRECTING BOARD (DB)

The Chairperson is **one of the members of the DB** elected by the Board for a term of four years with the possibility of re-election for one additional term.

Possibility of election of external person as Chair?



WORKING GROUPS

... Working groups are limited to a **term of two years** with a possible one-time re-appointment.

Some of the WGs exist for more than 4 years. Longer terms needed or other institutional integration (e.g. Research Centers)?



IERS ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Persons representing organizations that participate in any of the IERS components, and who are not members of the Directing Board, are considered IERS Associate Members. Ex officio IERS Associate Members are the following persons: ...

Currently, Associate Members do not play a defined role in IERS.

Should they be given specific rights?

Or can we remove this component?



IERS CORRESPONDENTS

IERS Correspondents are persons on a mailing list maintained by the Central Bureau, who do not actively participate in the IERS but express interest in receiving IERS publications, wish to participate in workshops or scientific meetings organized by the IERS, or generally are interested in IERS activities.

Currently, there are several mailing lists maintained by the Central Bureau and at least two product centers. Could the definition of IERS Correspondents be deleted / replaced by „Associated members“?



Establishment of a quality control of the IERS products in a similar way as it is organized for the GGFC

Example:

IERS GGFC CALL for Special Bureau Chairs and
Operational Products within the Restructured GGFC
(May 22, 2009)

Process of accreditation for new official IERS products:

In the case of new operational products, accreditation will be a two step process:

Stage 1: Proposal Submission to IERS (Response to this CfP)

- Description of the product
- Availability of data for generating the product
- Expected reliability and accuracy
- Expected delay in making the product available operationally
- Institution / Person that are responsible for the product generation (who will be head of the Associated Product Center (APC), if the product is accepted)

Process of accreditation for new official IERS products (cont'd):

Stage 2: Proposal accepted by IERS DB

- A product accepted by the related PC and the IERS DB is then adopted as a provisional operational product for a pilot phase of 2 years
- During this time the institution must demonstrate the reliability (precision, delay, availability, etc)
- At the end of this pilot phase, the performance of the institution providing the product is evaluated based on a report.
- If the review is negative, justifications can be given and a second trial period of 1 year can be granted

If the review is positive, the product becomes an official IERS operational product and the institution becomes an official IERS Associated Product Center (APC) with the possibility for becoming an IERS PC.