



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Space Policy, Copernicus and Defence

Brussels,

GROW/I3/

Meeting with ATOS on 20. October 2016

The meeting was organised on request of the ATOS.

1. OBJECTIVE OF THE MEETING:

The objective of ATOS's visit was to present the SparkInData project and to discuss the future data dissemination and access plans for Copernicus, in particular as the public procurement is concerned.

2. DISCUSSION POINTS

Sparkindata is a Cloud platform developed by a consortium of 11 partners under the leadership of ATOS. It is an R&D project financed by the French government under the programme "Investment for the Future". The platform brings together different sources of EO and non-EO environmental data which provides new services for e.g. agriculture, urban planning, security, climate, health. The platform has a federated architecture based on open source technologies; to ensure interoperability between the different applications open standards are used. The platform is service –oriented and the solutions are driven by user requirements.

Against this background ATOS is very much interested in the DIAS project, and in particularly in public procurement process and the role of the Commission in this process.

I3 explained that the main objective of its future plans regarding data dissemination and access is to provide easy access to users to Copernicus, EO observation and other data, with a particular view on data exploitation for business development and societally useful applications. The objective would be to bring closer together a fragmented EO data system in Europe and approach the problem from both the supply side and the demand side: since the EO data market in Europe is still in a very early stage, there is still significant uncertainty regarding the "critical mass" needed for self-sustainability. For this to happen, there is a need by the EU, ESA, EUMETSAT and the Member States to work together and co-ordinate their efforts as much as possible. I3 explained that it aims to achieve as much complementarity as possible (e.g. between the Commission's plans, ESAs TEPs, the COLIGS and the Copernicus services) and that eventually it would be very useful if the data access platforms could become self-sustaining in close partnership between private and public actors. I3 further indicated that the details of the approach are currently being discussed at the functional and technical level with ESA,

EUMETSAT and the Member States in the context of the Task Force on the Integrated Ground Segment and that there would be industry information days held to ensure that all industrial players would have additional information at the same level before moving to the next stage in the planning.

ATOS raised the question where the Commission sees the priorities in the tender and who will play the "first role": EO or IT companies? I3 replied that the functional requirements do not define what will be the "centre of gravity". The most important point for the Commission is the quality of the consortia and their offer with regards to the DIAS as a future key pillar for high level Big Data services in Europe. ATOS explained that they have already contacts with other potential partners of a consortium but that no final decision has been taken yet on the concrete role of ATOS in one of the consortia.

Location	Breydel 9/260
In attendance	
GROW I3	
RHEA	