WATER-HM activities: CNES programmatic status

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Direction for Strategy and Programs - CNES
Exchange of letters between NASA & CNES:
- Agreement on conducting a cooperative preliminary study about WATER-HM
- In the spirit and in the continuation of 20+ years of cooperation in space altimetry
- Agreement to constitute a common Science Working Group
- Points of Contact for Programmatics and Science designated

CNES phase 0 study in progress (cf. dedicated presentation), fully funded

SWG created, Terms Of Reference to be agreed (to-day)
Follow-on activities

- CNES/NASA and CNES/NOAA meetings at CEO/Administrator level
  => WATER-HM is a very high priority in France/US space cooperation

- Formal review of proposals at CNES end of September, 2007
  => WATER-HM ranked first for entering phase A in 2008
  => CNES will be able to fund phase A in 2008/2009:
    - dedicated project team
    - industrial & science activities

- Conditions/constraints to enter phase A in 2008:
  - Phase 0 has to be ok
    - no showstopper
    - science goals & requirements in agreement with phase 0 design(s)
  - Cooperation/coordination with NASA to be discussed:
    - CNES does not intend to start phase A alone
    - Preliminary responsibility/task sharing to be discussed