

# THE 2016 MISSION EXTENSION PROCESS

Briefing to Science Working Teams and User Groups

A.N. Parmar  
Head, Scientific Support Office (SCI-S)

- In general, we will be requesting mission **confirmations** of operations for 2017-2018 and **extensions** of operations from 2019-2020 (see next VG).
- So any mission whose approval to operate finishes before the end of 2020 and could have the capability of continued operations should be part of this process.
- Following the recommendations of an SPC Working Group, since 2008 mission extension requests are now grouped and ranked competitively.

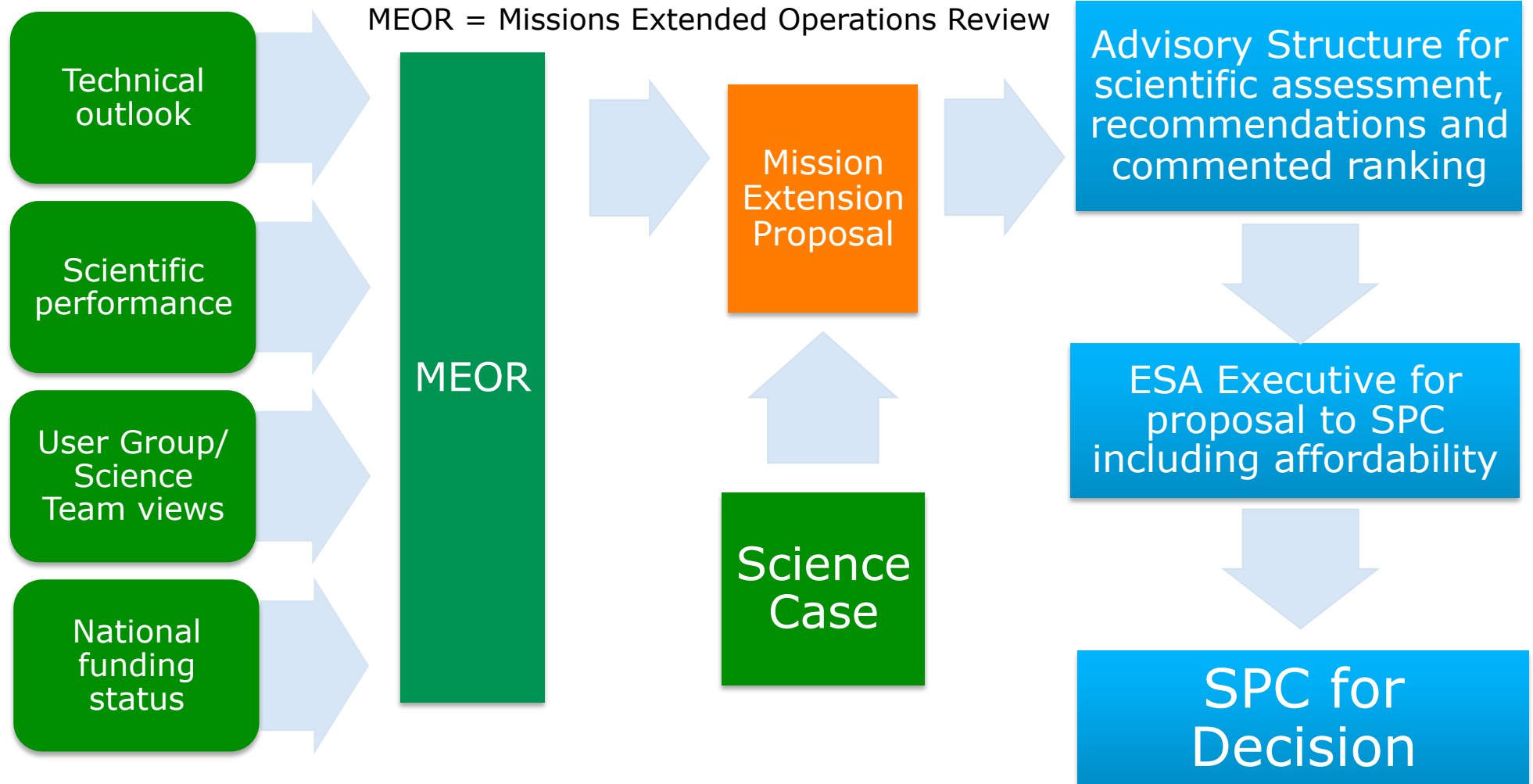
# POTENTIAL MISSION EXTENSIONS



<b>Mission</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>SWT/UG etc</b>
HST	Confirmation	Extension	STUC
INTEGRAL	Confirmation	Extension	UG
XMM-NEWTON	Confirmation	Extension	UG
GAIA	N/A	Extension	SWT
CLUSTER	Confirmation	Extension	SWT
MEX	Confirmation	Extension	SWT
SOHO	Confirmation	Extension	-
Hinode	Confirmation	Extension	-
PROBA-2	Confirmation	Extension	-
IRIS	Extension	Extension	-

- Starts in the spring of the even years with meetings of the missions' User Groups or Science Working Teams.
- The process continues with a "Mission Extended Operations Review" (MEOR), where all aspects (scientific performance, technical, operational, national funding and disposal) of the mission are assessed.
- Following a successful conclusion of the MEOR and the agreement of D/SCI, the Executive prepares the case for the extension of each mission.

# Mission Extensions Process



Prime criterion for the decision is defined by the SSAC but has always been the added science return in the extension:

- Including expected new science;
- Potential for new discoveries;
- Possible need for continuity and long time series and
- Impact of the mission so far assessed by the number and quality of refereed publications.

- Overall responsibility for preparation delegated to the Mission Managers.
- Contents (maximum 7 pages, excluding annexes):
- Science Case for Extension (Project Scientist coordinates – 5 pages)
  - Introduction
  - Impact of mission to date, including relevant metrics: completion status of nominal mission, publications, citations, over-subscription factors, usage of archives...
  - Confirmation operations through demonstration that scientific performance unchanged
  - Expected science in extension
  - Issues of complementarities and uniqueness, including cooperation with (and support to) other missions
  - Recommendations from SWTs/User Groups etc

- State of health of spacecraft, instruments, and ground segment including prognosis for extension period and beyond
- Any recommendations from MEOR including any further cost saving measures identified
- Status and prognosis of national funding
- (Outline) financial request
- Conclusions
- Annexes (with any additional info for AWG/SSWG, but not SSAC/SPC)



# 2016 EXTENSION TIMELINE



- Feb-May Interact with SWTs/UGs to obtain their inputs
- 30-31 May MEORs held in ESOC
- April-July Preparation of proposals
- 1 Aug 7-page extension proposals to SSAC/WGs
- 13-14 Oct Presentations on the science cases to the SSEWG/AWG at ESTEC. These are ~30 min each with 15 min for MoU (TBC)
  - Please propose 1 or 2 presenters from the SWT/UG**
  - **Proposal: David Berghmans to present the mission extension**
  - **SWT to confirm!**
- 2-3 Nov SSAC meeting for recommendation to D/SCI
- 22-23 Nov Decision by SPC