RECOMMENDATION CCTF # (2009):

Concerning adoption of a common terrestrial reference frame by the CGPM

The Consultative Committee for Time and Frequency,

considering that

- There exists at present only a few global satellite navigation systems but that new ones are being created and in the future there may be many more;
- That different time and geodesy reference systems, which are in use in these navigation systems, produce additional ambiguities for users regarding interpretation of navigation and timing solutions and render systems interoperability more difficult
- that although the international terrestrial reference system ITRS is recommended by geodetic unions, it has not yet been adopted by an intergovernmental organization;
- that such an adoption by the appropriate intergovernmental organization would lead to more user convenience regarding unification of navigation and timing solutions and systems interoperability

Noting

That one of the key factors that led to the creation of the BIPM and the Metre Convention was the recommendation of the second international conference on geodesy held in Berlin in 1867 that a European Bureau of Standards be set up in order to unify European geodesy standards

recommends that

after agreement with geodetic unions, the 24th CGPM be asked to adopt the ITRS, as defined by the IUGG and realized by the IERS and IGS, as the international standard for terrestrial reference frames used in particular by satellite navigation systems.