



PRESS RELEASE

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IAF and AIAA Conclude Successful Global Space Exploration Conference

First of its Kind Forum Brought Together World Space Leaders for Frank Dialogue on the Future of Space Exploration

IAF PR 05-2012, 27 May 2012 –The International Astronautical Federation (IAF) and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) concluded its first ever Global Space Exploration Conference (GLEX) bringing together all stakeholders from agencies, industry, academia and R&D. Enabling the dialogue between these communities. GLEX proved to be complementary to the Third International Conference on Exploration, held in Lucca, Italy in November 2011 and the work of the International Space Exploration Coordination Group (ISECG).

Besides the heads of the Canadian, European, and Russian space agencies, and high level representatives of ISRO, JAXA and NASA, GLEX was attended by over 630 representatives from academia, government and industry, the conference offered 5 plenary sessions, 35 technical sessions, and 6 panel discussion. These thoroughly considered the entire exploration architecture, including possible future exploration destinations for future missions, the technology needed to ensure missions success, and the overwhelming need for continued international cooperation throughout the exploration enterprise.

IAF President Berndt Feuerbacher noted: “This was a very successful conference. It succeeded to initiate a dialogue between the various stakeholder communities, and it established links previously not existing. This was the first Global Space Exploration Conference, and it will not be the last. Depending on demand and timelines, IAF will consider continuing this dialogue.”

AIAA President Mike Griffin stated: “I am extremely pleased with the results of our first AIAA/IAF Global Exploration Conference. This event offered everything we could have desired - a highly diverse international group of scientists, engineers, managers, astronauts, and operations professionals gathered together to discuss the future of space exploration. The atmosphere of energy and engagement was palpable, demonstrating the value that professional societies offer by hosting interdisciplinary events oriented around a common theme.”

For more information on GLEX, including summaries and videos of the keynote and plenary sessions, please visit: <http://www.GLEX2012.org>



INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL FEDERATION

About the International Astronautical Federation (IAF)

Founded in 1951, the International Astronautical Federation is the world's leading space advocacy body with 227 members in 59 countries including all leading space agencies, companies, societies, associations and institutes worldwide.

Following its theme "A space-faring world cooperating for the benefit of humanity", the Federation advances knowledge about space, fostering the development and application of space assets by advancing global cooperation.

As organizer of the annual International Astronautical Congress (IAC), and other meetings on specific subjects, the IAF actively encourages the development of astronautics for peaceful purposes and supports the dissemination of scientific and technical information related to space.