



PRESS RELEASE

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IAF and AIAA to Host the Global Space Exploration Conference in Washington, D.C.

IAF PR 02-2012, 17 April 2012 – Heads of Space Agencies and space experts from around the world will discuss future space exploration initiatives at the Global Space Exploration Conference (GLEX). The conference will be held 22-24 May 2012 at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, 480 L'Enfant Plaza Southwest, Washington, D.C, United States.

The opening day of the event will feature a “Heads of Space Agencies Global Space Exploration Dialogue”, moderated by AIAA Executive Director Bob Dickman. It will bring together Charles Bolden (Administrator of NASA), Jean-Jacques Dordain (Director General at the European Space Agency), Steve MacLean (President of the Canadian Space Agency) and Vladimir A. Popovkin (Head of the Russian Federal Space Agency) for a candid discussion about the future of space exploration initiatives in the global community. Dr. Keiji Tachikawa (President of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) and Dr. K. Radhakrishnan (Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organization) have also been invited.

GLEX will present a series of panel discussions and 40 technical sessions featuring more than 300 papers, continuing the international dialogue that is critical to advancing future space exploration initiatives. Among the subjects to be discussed are:

- The human space exploration value proposition
- Utilising the International Space Station (ISS) as a platform for future exploration
- Capabilities for deep space exploration
- Political issues surrounding international cooperation
- Engaging the general public in space exploration
- The Global Exploration Roadmap

In addition to the agency heads, other notable speakers will include: William Gerstenmaier, Associate Administrator, Human Exploration and Operations Directorate, NASA; John Karas, Vice President and General Manager, Human Space Flight, Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company; Alexey Krasnov, Head of Manned Spaceflight Programs, Russian Federal Space Agency; Clay Mowry, President, Arianespace Inc.; Steve Squyres, Goldwin Smith Professor of Astronomy, Cornell University; John Elbon, Vice President and General Manager, Space Exploration, The Boeing Company. Jie Yuan, Vice President of China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation and François Auque, Chief Executive Officer at EADS Astrium, have also been invited to participate.

“GLEX will be another highlight in our new series of international conferences, bringing together global space stakeholders, including senior administrators and managers from the major space agencies, industry, government, academia and NGOs. This unique event will provide a platform to present results, exchange ideas, debate roadmaps and discuss the future environment for this exciting domain of astronautics,” says Dr Christian Feichtinger, IAF Executive Director. “Together with our partner AIAA, we are pleased to welcome the international space exploration community in Washington and look forward to interesting discussions and fruitful results.”



INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL FEDERATION

GLEX is supported by Lockheed Martin Corporation, The Boeing Company, United Launch Alliance, Battelle Memorial Institute, and the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems. Partner organisations for the event are the International Academy of Astronautics, International Institute of Space Law, Committee on Space Research, International Space Exploration Coordination Group, and the International Lunar Exploration Working Group. The Canadian Aeronautics and Space Institute will provide additional conference support.

For more information or to register, please visit www.GLEX2012.org. Conference registration is free for credentialed members of the press and can be obtained by contacting Duane Hyland at +1 703 264 7558 or duaneh@aiaa.org.

About the International Astronautical Federation (IAF)

Founded in 1951, the International Astronautical Federation is the world's leading space advocacy body. It has 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 and fosters the development and application of space assets by advancing global cooperation.

As organiser 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.