



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IAF Spring Meetings 2018: IAC 2018 set to be the best IAC ever

IAF President, Dr. Jean-Yves Le Gall presented the Federation's activities and upcoming events during the annual IAF Spring Meetings held on 27 – 29 March in Paris.

Dr. Le Gall announced that the Global Space Applications Conference (GLAC 2018) will be held in Montevideo, Uruguay on 21 – 23 May 2018 and hosted by Centro de Investigacion y Difusion Aeronautico-Espacial (CIDA-E), a member of IAF since 1985. Since the last conference on space applications, GLAC 2014, the international satellite-based applications community has significantly moved forward with their respective planning and developments. Now is the perfect time to take stock of progress and look forward to the future of space applications on a global scale, with a specific focus on developing space nations such as Uruguay. This is the very first time an IAF event is being organized in Uruguay.

In its series of global conferences, IAF is also currently organizing the Global Conference on Space for Emerging Countries, co-organized with the Centre Royal de Télédétection Spatiale of Morocco, which will take place in May 2019 in Morocco.

It is of course undeniable that IAC 2017 was a great success, with one of the largest attendances ever; this is also confirmed by the record-breaking number of almost 4,300 abstract submissions from 90 countries this year for the IAC 2018, which promises to be the best IAC ever.

Additionally, Dr. Le Gall shared some thoughts about his Global Innovation Agenda 2016-2019, giving an insight into one of its most important aspects: Diversity. He also detailed the events organized or attended by IAF in 2017, such as the African Chapter of the International Space Forum (ISF) co-organized by IAF, the Italian Space Agency (ASI) and the Kenyan Space Agency. Given the evident success the two editions of ISF, Raúl Kulichevsky, Deputy Technical and Executive Director of the Argentinian National Commission of Space Activities (CONAE), announced the new regional chapter of the ISF focusing on South America to take place at the end of 2018 in Argentina. This new event aligns well with the IAF global innovation agenda to reach out to space developing space and emerging nations and will work towards IAF's mission of connecting all space people.

Dr. Le Gall also mentioned the three letters of intent received to host IAC 2021 from the Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES), Paris, France, the Singapore Space & Technology Association (SSTA), Singapore, and the Association of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIDAA), Venice, Italy. The selected host country will be announced at IAC 2018 in Bremen.

After his speech, the IAF President met with the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) to sign the contract for the 70th International Astronautical Congress to be held on 21 – 25 October 2019 in Washington D.C., United States. The event will coincide with the worldwide celebrations to mark the 50th anniversary of mankind's first steps on the Moon.

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