GREENHOUSE GAS MEASUREMENTS FROM SPACE – DIFFICULT
CHALLENGES, EMERGING SUCCESS, AND PLANS FOR THE FUTURE
AT IAC 2018

On Thursday 4 October 2018, from 08:30 – 09:30, Harry Cikanek, Director of the Center for
Satellite Applications and Research (STAR), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s
(NOAA) will moderate a panel of distinguished speakers on the topic of 'Greenhouse Gas
Measurements from Space – Difficult Challenges, Emerging Success, and Plans for the Future'
for a Plenary Event.

Atmospheric carbon is steadily increasing. The Keeling Curve, depicting the concentration of CO2
in the atmosphere over Hawaii, started in 1958 and initially measured 315 ppm. In April 2014, the
concentration topped 401 ppm. Contributions to this increase are coming from anthropomorphic
and natural sources. As the concentration of greenhouse gases (GHG) grow, Earth is warming and
changing the future environment with major challenges to the life on the planet. The COP 21
Declaration is an international recognition of this increase and consequences on life across the
planet. Creating a well calibrated, accurate, and globally accepted time series of GHG levels and
sustaining those over decades represents a major commitment of space agencies.

Josef Aschbacher, Director of Earth Observation Programmes and Head of ESRIN at the European
Space Agency (ESA), Juliette Lambin, Earth Observation Program Manager at the Centre National
d’Etudes Spatiales (CNES), Michael Freilich, Director Earth Science Division at the National
Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Alain Ratier, Director General of EUMETSAT, and
Naoto Matsuura, Senior Chief Officer of Satellite Applications and Director of Earth Observation
Research Center (EORC) at the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) will articulate the
difficult challenges of making the needed measurements, convey emerging successes from efforts
already underway, and describe plans for the future of these critical observations.

Members of the press are invited to save the date, and register to ensure that they receive
accreditation. Please send confirmation of your registration to media@iafastro.org so that we can
ensure that you are properly accredited.

For more information
Silvia Antolino, Press Manager
media@iafastro.org
01 45 67 58 18

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