



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The IAF still at the Forefront in its Mission of Connecting @II Space People

IAF President, Dr. Jean-Yves Le Gall presented the Federation's activities and upcoming events during the annual IAF Spring Meetings held on 26-28 March in Paris.

First, Dr. Le Gall spontaneously came back on the tremendous success of the 69th International Astronautical Congress (IAC) held in Bremen, Germany in October 2018 attracting a record number of 6,500 participants from over 81 countries. He also underlined the 2018 edition of the International Space Forum at Ministerial Level where 17 delegations from Latin American and the Caribbean and 12 from International Organizations and Space Agencies engaged in an interesting discussion about the role space technologies could play in facing some of the challenges in the area, and the opportunities the space sector could bring for the socio-economic development.

To follow, Dr. Le Gall invited the press to the Global Conference on Space for Emerging Countries, GLEC 2019, co-organized by the Royal Centre for Remote Sensing (CRTS) and the Centre National d'Études Spatiales (CNES), which will take place in Marrakesh, Morocco on 24-26 April 2019. From this conference, the IAF expects that contributions of participants will "help to provide collective insight to the challenges facing emerging countries and create opportunities for more collaborations and networking that will strengthen the links of cooperation and exchange between the actors in the global space venture".

Concerning the IAC 2019 which will take place in Washington D.C. on 21-25 October 2019, Dr. Le Gall announced a record-breaking numbers of 4,320 abstract submissions, 80 special sessions and 45 plenary proposals. This IAC is "already making history". In addition, Dr. Le Gall mentioned the five letters of intent received to host the IAC 2022, from the Indian Space Research Organization, India, from Azercosmos, Baku-Azerbaijan, from the Singapore Space and Technology Association, Singapore, from the Italian Association of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Milan-Italy and from the Agência Espacial Brasileira, Brazil. The selected host country will be announced at IAC 2019.

Dr. Le Gall closed by informing that the cooperation with the Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre on organizing the IAC 2020 in Dubai was in full swing and that activities are also proceeding well with CNES, the French Space Agency, in preparing the 72nd IAC in Paris in 2021.

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