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**Buenos Aires,
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The Buenos Aires Page

3rd International Space Forum at Ministerial Level - The Latin American & Caribbean Chapter

“Space Science and Academia for better Solution to Latin America and Caribbean’s Challenges”

On November 1st, 2018, the Argentinean Secretary of Government for Science, Technology and Innovation, Ministers of Science, University and Research and other Space governmental Authorities of the Latin America and Caribbean countries, representatives and experts of national and international space agencies and organizations, met in Buenos Aires (Argentina), under the auspices of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF), the Italian Space Agency (ASI) and the *Comisión Nacional de Actividades Espaciales* (CONAE), for open and productive discussions on the opportunity of a greater involvement of Latin American and Caribbean universities and Academia in the space programs to search for better solutions to Latin America and Caribbean’s challenges.

Following the first International Space Forum (ISF) held in Trento (Italy) in 2016 with the adoption of the Trento Space Statement and the 2nd International Space Forum - The African Chapter - held in Nairobi (Kenya) with the adoption of The Nairobi Page, delegates, experts, representatives of Academia gathered in Buenos Aires for the 3rd International Space Forum – The Latin American & Caribbean Chapter - and exchanged views, shared experiences and made statements, in which they declared that:

- space technology and applications provide and contribute to find solutions to several challenges that affect human life on Earth and represent a precious support to the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for sustainable development;
 - space activities require high-level scientific and technical knowledge, as well as a multidisciplinary approach;
 - academic institutions represent an immense reservoir of knowledge and human talents, very well distributed all over the world and characterized by a great propensity for cooperation;
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- the greater involvement of Academia and scientific community in space activities would increase the chances to find even better space solutions to global challenges.

Three keynote speeches were delivered by distinguished space experts on the following three topics:

- **Education and Capacity Building:** a greater development of space education and training in Latin America and Caribbean would serve as a catalyst for high-level scientific and technical capacity building and contribute to a greater socio-economic development of the region.
- **Management of natural resources and prevention of disasters:** Earth observation, navigation and telecommunications satellite technology and applications are precious tools to support governmental, regional and local management activities, in particular, to protect the environment, to ensure a peaceful and secure region, to manage diversity as source of wealth, harmony and socio-economic transformation.
- **Space Partnerships:** partnerships and collaborations among countries with different levels of space knowledge would facilitate its dissemination and technology transfer. Space partnerships among Latin American and Caribbean scientific and academic institutions would allow making the best of their capacities in space activities establishing the conditions for all countries of the region.

Governmental representatives and delegates noted that:

- the Latin American and Caribbean region has been developing its space capacities since the 1970s: several countries have established national space agencies with planned space programs and activities;
 - the Region has a very active scientific community, with historical Universities and scientific institutions that would benefit from their inclusion and active participation in the global space community, which would facilitate the exchange of space knowledge and increase space capacity-building opportunities;
 - space partnerships among academic institutions of the Region and between these and the international space community is a challenging opportunity to
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support the socio-economic regional development and insert “Space activities” in the governmental agendas and also to support an adequate infrastructural development on ground and in space.

Ministers, Heads of delegations, Heads of space agencies and all distinguished delegates present in Buenos Aires welcomed the 3rd International Space Forum - The Latin American & Caribbean Chapter - and identified the following points as the main objectives to be pursued in a medium-short term:

- increase and deepen networking in space cooperation activities among Latin American and Caribbean scientific and academic institutions, and with spacefaring countries, in order to facilitate capacity building and technology transfer;
- consider the existing space Centers and facilities in the region to build up a space network of infrastructures to develop a sustainable roadmap for a challenging regional Capacity Building Program linked to the global IAF community;
- consider the opportunities offered by the regional Center for Space Science and Technology education for Latin American and the Caribbean (CRECTEALC) affiliated to the United Nations;
- among the space educational institutions, the Mario Gulich Institute in Space Advanced Studies, located in Cordoba (Argentina) at the Teofilo Tabanera Space Center of CONAE, represents a unique Centre of excellence in the region for earth observation data use, training, teaching, processing and information for the management of natural resources and disasters;
- promote an ever greater space cooperation in the Region to prepare the adequate environment for the development of a future regional space agency;
- promote the peaceful use of outer space for the benefit of the present and future generation of men and women and as a contribution to the achievement of the goals of the 2030 agenda of the United Nations.

Finally, the Latin American and Caribbean delegations expressed the wish to replicate this regional space Forum in the following years, to enhance the participation of local scientific communities, academic institutions and experts,



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involving also new actors and private companies to continue and expand the discussion on space capabilities and technology opportunities for a greater socio-economic development of the Region.
