



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The IAC 2019 – An Incredible Journey

The 70th International Astronautical Congress held in Washington, D.C., United States ended Friday 25 October 2019. More than 6.800 space enthusiasts coming from over 80 countries gathered in the grand city of Washington, D.C. for an intense week of events, meetings, collaborations and discovering.

The IAC 2019 started on Monday 21 October 2019 with the Honorable Mike Pence, Vice President of the United States, confirming the USA plans to go forward to the Moon and land the first woman and the next man on the Lunar surface by 2024. The legacy of Moon exploration was also celebrated by the IAF presenting the IAF World Space Award to the Apollo 11 crew. On Industry Day, Blue Origin founder, Jeff Bezos was awarded the first IAF Excellence in Industry Award for Blue Origin's amazing accomplishment with the New Shepard launcher. During a fireside chat, moderated by Pascale Ehrenfreund, the new IAF President, Blue Origin formally announced the partnership with Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman and Draper to form the national team for NASA's ARTEMIS human landing system to return to the Moon.

IAC 2019 also featured an extensive programme, including countless technical presentations, panel discussion and bilateral meetings. The largest ever IAC Exhibition welcomed several side activities, many of those dedicated to STEM and outreach to the general public and school children. The IAC 2019 also saw the participation of numerous astronauts/cosmonauts and featured a dedicated astronauts panel open to the general public.

At its sessions, the IAF General Assembly welcomed 41 new members, bringing the total membership count to 397 from 69 countries; selected Baku, Azerbaijan, as Host city for IAC 2022 and elected 4 new vice presidents: Deganit Paikowsky (Israel), Sergey Saveliyev (Russian Federation), Mary Snitch (United States) and Dominique Tilmans (Belgium). The new IAF President, Pascale Ehrenfreund, took up duty on Friday 25 and announced her IAF Global Advocacy Agenda 2019 – 2022, focusing on supporting and facilitating global space governance, stimulating and propelling global space economy and influencing and fostering global space advocacy. Past President Jean-Yves Le Gall was appointed IAF Honorary Ambassador.

For more information
media@iafastro.org

