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## CNES in Seoul for annual APSCC conference From New Space to Smart Space

**CNES President Jean-Yves Le Gall was in Seoul, South Korea, on Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 September, where he was the guest speaker at the opening of the annual conference and exhibition of the Asia-Pacific Satellite Communications Council (APSCC). Under the banner 'Stay Connected', this year's event is highlighting the challenges and opportunities facing the satellite and related services industry. On the sidelines of the conference, Jean-Yves Le Gall met Chin-Young Hwang, Executive Director of the Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI).**

APSCC is a non-profit international association representing all sectors of the satellite industry, including private and public companies, government ministries and agencies, and academic and research entities. Its objective is to promote communications and broadcasting via satellite as well as outer space activities in Asia-Pacific for the socioeconomic and cultural welfare of the region. APSCC's 2015 annual conference is focused on the theme 'Stay Connected' and is bringing together many representatives from telecommunications satellite operators and government agencies in the Asia-Pacific region and around the world.

Jean-Yves Le Gall gave the opening speech at the event alongside APSCC President Paul Brown-Kenyon and JangSoo Ryoo, President of the Korea Association for Space Technology Promotion. He underlined the challenges facing the satellite industry to make it fit for purpose in the New Space era and all the new markets the sector is set to serve, notably with the advent of 5G. He also highlighted the growth of space applications and the now ubiquitous role of smartphones in people's daily lives.

On the sidelines of the conference, Jean-Yves Le Gall met Chin-Young Hwang, Executive Director of KARI, to discuss space cooperation between France and South Korea. Following South Korea's decision to select several French satellite and launch bids, the two agencies could now pursue the closer relations they have begun to forge since the start of this year.

After the opening session of the APSCC conference, Jean-Yves Le Gall said: "I am delighted to see so many key players in our industry together here today in Seoul, which confirms how vibrant this market is, notably in Asia. The solutions on show here are helping to reshape the sector, where after the game-changing shifts operated by New Space players in the United States new synergies are already starting to emerge between satellites and smartphones, driving what could well soon be known as 'Smart Space'.

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