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# France-Singapore space cooperation New cooperation agreement between CNES and Nanyang Technological University (NTU)

**Monday 25 April at the agency's Head Office in Paris, CNES President Jean-Yves Le Gall and Lam Khin Yong, Chief of Staff and Vice President of Nanyang Technological University (NTU), signed a new cooperation agreement outlining arrangements for exchanging PhD students.**

This new agreement follows on from the letter of intent that CNES signed with Singapore's Economic Development Board (EDB) on 18 May 2015 at the Elysée Palace on the occasion of the state visit to France of Singapore's President.

Institutional ties in space between France and Singapore were initiated in the 2000s, leading to CNES establishing a partnership in 2013 with NTU on the radiation effects of lasers on electronic components under the Merlion programme. The new agreement signed today will enable the partners to put in place arrangements for exchanging two PhD students starting this summer, and to test processes with a view to furthering such exchanges in the years ahead.

After the signing of the agreement, Jean-Yves Le Gall commented: "CNES is especially proud to have signed this agreement with NTU, which ranked second in Times Higher Education's latest list of the world's top universities of under 50 years, published on 7 April. This agreement will be a key element of France's efforts to support Singapore's ambition to quickly establish itself as one of Southeast Asia's leading space nations."

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