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## European space cooperation in The Hague CNES at the European Space Solutions conference (ESS)

**The European Space Solutions conference (ESS) is being held from Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June in The Hague. CNES President Jean-Yves Le Gall was invited to this fourth edition of the event bringing together major space players from all over the world, devoted this year to the theme “Exploring how the European Union's navigation and Earth observation programmes can deliver innovative solutions to real-life challenges”.**

For this fourth edition of the ESS conference at the World Forum Convention Centre in The Hague, under the auspices of the Dutch Presidency of the EU Council, the event organizers have brought together business and policymakers with users and developers of space-based solutions. Proceedings explored how space is making a difference to the lives and livelihoods of people across Europe, focusing on the need to develop space-based services and technologies to meet society's needs. The conference also provided the opportunity to conduct a wide-ranging review of flagship European space programmes such as Galileo, EGNOS and Copernicus, and the EU's Horizon 2020 research programme.

CNES President Jean-Yves Le Gall was invited to speak at the panel discussion on “New Perspectives in Space”, during which he underlined the rise of NewSpace and the need for Europe to embrace this paradigm shift being driven by the U.S space sector. Pointing to the key step forward made with the New Delhi Declaration as the linchpin for implementing the space agenda of the COP21, he then stressed the importance of international cooperation in making this transition, an area where CNES has acquired unparalleled expertise, in order to get space agencies and their governments fully behind efforts to curb climate change.

Jean-Yves Le Gall concluded: “It is vital today that the space sector moves out of its comfort zone and opens up to investors to take advantage of the massive influx of digital technologies. This must be a priority for space, as must international cooperation, which is the only way we will meet the global challenges facing us, as we proved in engaging the New Delhi Declaration in support of efforts to curb climate change.”

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