

Paris, 14 June 2016  
PR112 - 2016

## France-Indonesia space cooperation CNES and LAPAN meet

**A delegation from LAPAN, the Indonesian National Institute of Aeronautics and Space, led by its Chairman, Professor Thomas Djamaluddin, was received by CNES President Jean-Yves Le Gall at the agency's head office in Paris before visiting its Toulouse Space Centre today.**

Indonesia made its entry into the space sector in 1976 with the launch of the Palapa-A1 telecommunications satellite, since when it has acquired eight more for operator PT Telekomunikasi Indonesia Tbk. Indonesia's 2013 space law gave LAPAN strengthened responsibility for leading and coordinating the nation's space activities, focused on space weather forecasting, technologies and remote-sensing applications. Due to its geographic location, Indonesia is also involved in tracking space debris. It is now set to orbit the BRISat telecommunications satellite on 16 June atop an Ariane 5 launcher from the Guiana Space Centre, and the LAPAN-A3 remote-sensing satellite on 20 June on an Indian PSLV launcher. France and Indonesia's ties in space go back to 1974, when a first framework cooperation agreement was signed. Indonesian commercial telecommunications satellite operators have also forged numerous contacts with European industry.

Invited by Jean-Yves Le Gall to visit CNES on the sidelines of the latest session of COPUOS, Thomas Djamaluddin presented his country's domains of interest, notably the products and services of CNES's subsidiary CLS, the world-renowned specialist in location and data collection coordinating the INDESO science and operational oceanography project that is a key priority for Indonesia. The two agency heads also discussed the possibility of establishing a new framework agreement to train teams and develop technologies and applications derived from Earth remote sensing and climate modelling. After their meeting, Thomas Djamaluddin visited CNES's Toulouse Space Centre today in the company of its Director, Marc Pircher.

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