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## **Brigitte Behal, CNES Director of Procurement, Sales and Legal Affairs, made Chevalier of the Legion of Honour**

**Tuesday 20 September, CNES President Jean-Yves Le Gall presented Brigitte Behal, the agency's Director of Procurement, Sales and Legal Affairs, with the insignia of Chevalier of the Legion of Honour at a ceremony in Toulouse.**

A graduate of ENSICA, the French national aeronautical engineering school, and holder of a Master of Science in Aeronautics and Astronautics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Brigitte Behal joined CNES in 1986.

After occupying a number of positions at the agency's Toulouse Space Centre, Brigitte Behal is since 2015 CNES's Director of Procurement, Sales and Legal Affairs and sits on its Executive Committee. In this capacity, she negotiates and manages a portfolio of contracts worth some €800 million every year, from routine supplies to procurement of satellites and major undertakings such as the earthwork for the future Ariane 6 launch pad. She is also in charge of legally vetting everything that CNES does, both in France and outside national borders.

On behalf of French President François Hollande, Jean-Yves Le Gall presented Brigitte Behal with the insignia of Chevalier of the Legion of Honour from the honours list put forward by the Secretariat of State for Higher Education and Research, paying tribute to her 30-year career at CNES: "This distinction rewards an exceptional career during which you have often worked to make the impossible possible. And since taking over the reins of the Directorate of Procurement, Sales and Legal Affairs, you are making sure that your colleagues do not get carried away and apply the agencies internal procedures by making the possible impossible!" he concluded.

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