

Press Release

13 November 2017 PR175-2017

CNES at the Dubai Airshow 2017

Sunday 12 November, CNES President Jean-Yves Le Gall was at the opening ceremony of the Dubai Airshow 2017, attended by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of the United Arab Emirates. He also met Ahmad Belhoul Al Falasi and Mohammed Al Ahbabi, the President and Director General of the United Arab Emirates Space Agency (UAESA), to discuss space cooperation between France and the UAE.

CNES and UAESA, who have been working together since 2015 under a memorandum that forms the framework for space cooperation between France and the United Arab Emirates, signed a joint declaration of interest on tackling climate change on 9 November during the state visit of President Emmanuel Macron to the UAE, with a view to consolidating the scientific collaboration in this field between the two nations. To this end, synergies between satellite missions to study greenhouse gases—DMSat-1 for UAESA and MicroCarb and MERLIN for CNES—are being considered.

Actions to come out of the first CNES-UAESA workshop in Toulouse last January, covering a number of studies on engineering topics and concrete space applications, and the themes of the Global Aerospace Congress 2018 to be held in Abu Dhabi and IAC 2020 in Dubai were also discussed. Lastly, Jean-Yves Le Gall met His Excellency Ludovic Pouille, France's Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, who visited CNES's stand at the Dubai Airshow showcasing what France is doing to invent the future of space.

After his visit to the Dubai Airshow, Jean-Yves Le Gall commented: "The 2017 Dubai Airshow offers a new opportunity to step up space cooperation between France and the United Arab Emirates. The agreements between our two agencies are now spawning concrete actions, notably in the area of climate research, and I am delighted that UAESA will be taking part in the meeting of heads of space agencies in Paris on Monday 11 December, on the eve of the One Planet Summit initiated by President Macron."

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