

Press Release

5 March 2018

PR028-2018

2nd International Space Exploration Forum (ISEF2) CNES working to step up international cooperation to further space exploration

Saturday 3 March in Tokyo, CNES President Jean-Yves Le Gall and CNES Chief Operating Officer Lionel Suchet were at the 2nd International Space Exploration Forum (ISEF2), where they took part in roundtable sessions on the themes of promoting international space exploration and implementing human and robotic space exploration programmes through cooperation, alongside representatives from the world's space powers.

Space exploration is an emblematic area of international cooperation generating strong societal benefits for all. By working together to pursue a robust and sustainable path of exploration, space agencies are serving a common project for all citizens. More broadly, multilateral cooperation is essential in space research, enabling projects that exceed the resources of any single country and strengthening the political impetus needed to support them. Synergies between public and private sectors are also being encouraged to yield sustainable economic growth. Lastly, new entrants to the space sector are bringing their different experiences to the table and nurturing the development of start-ups and their business.

On the sidelines of this ISEF2 event, CNES met Japan's top space officials to discuss the main issues of space cooperation between France, Europe and Japan, with the establishment of the Space Climate Observatory (SCO) decided at the One Planet Summit in Paris last December and the next French-Japanese space dialogue meeting. The arrival of the MASCOT lander in October on the surface of asteroid Ryugu, the launch later this year from the Guiana Space Centre of the BepiColombo mission to Mercury and the future MMX (Martian Moons Exploration) sample return mission to Phobos were also discussed.

After these meetings, Jean-Yves Le Gall commented: "We have succeeded in developing a remarkable space policy over the years, a policy that has proved very effective economically and been characterized by its singular focus on forging partnership ties. Today, building on this experience and on our technological excellence, we are going to step up international cooperation in space exploration and chart an ambitious roadmap with all of our partners for the years ahead."

CONTACTS

Pascale Bresson Press Officer
Raphaël Sart Press Officer

Tel. +33 (0)1 44 76 75 39 pascale.bresson@cnes.fr
Tel. +33 (0)1 44 76 74 51 raphael.sart@cnes.fr

presse.cnes.fr