



Press Release

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CNES Science Survey Seminar Three days devoted to space science

This afternoon, CNES President Jean-Yves Le Gall opened the agency's Science Survey Seminar taking place in Le Havre over the next three days. More than 300 scientists are in attendance at this five-yearly event, where astrophysicist and French science academy member Jean-Loup Puget, Chair of CNES's Science Programmes Committee (CPS) since 1 January 2014, will be reviewing space science activities since the last seminar in La Rochelle in 2014. His successor Gilles Bergametti will be closing the seminar with the results of the survey for the 2019-2024 period.

As part of its mission to lead space science research in France, CNES organizes this seminar every five years, bringing together the scientific community to chart the future course of the national space science effort. It is the culmination of a year-long planning effort involving some 200 people from the scientific community and CNES. This survey task is vital to map out a vision beyond the horizon of projects currently underway.

The Science Survey Seminar serves to identify science priorities and inform future programme decisions for projects to be developed over the next decade, and exploitation of their science data well beyond. CNES and its partners are tasked with analysing parameters required to match science priorities to the human and financial resources dictated by technical, industrial, cooperation and sustainability policies.

Jean-Yves Le Gall took the opportunity to thank Jean-Loup Puget and his CPS team for their excellent work since the last seminar in La Rochelle, and to welcome Gilles Bergametti as Chair of the new CPS. CNES's President recalled the major scientific results achieved since 2014, both through the European Space Agency (ESA) and international partnerships. He underlined how the close partnership between CNES and the scientific community since the agency's inception nearly 60 years ago has proved its effectiveness, and wished participants every success for the seminar.

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