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PRESS RELEASE

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France and Sweden step up cooperation in space

Wednesday 22 February 2023, at the Swedish National Space Agency (SNSA) Conference, CNES Chairman & CEO Philippe Baptiste and SNSA Director General Anna Rathsman signed a framework agreement to further space cooperation between the two agencies. The agreement succeeds that signed in 2006 and will continue to build on the joint legacy begun more than 30 years ago.

Space cooperation between Sweden and France revolves around priority areas. Over the next five years, the two agencies will work together to foster the long-term competitiveness of European launchers, with a special focus on propulsion and reusability. The modernization of the Guiana Space Centre and development of capabilities at the Esrange Space Center are also at the top of both nations' agendas. In the field of Earth observation, Sweden and France will work on climate research leveraging satellite data, notably through the Space for Climate Observatory (SCO). The scope of the new agreement also covers development of applications, and scientific and education projects using balloons and sounding rockets.

On the sidelines of the signing ceremony, CNES's Chairman & CEO commented: "CNES's presence here in Kiruna for this conference and the renewal of our two nations' partnership are a perfect illustration of our rich and diverse collaboration serving Sweden, France and Europe's strategic independence, economic competitiveness and scientific excellence."

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