

CNES at the Global Space Applications Conference

CNES is at the Global Space Applications Conference organized by the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) from Monday 2 to Wednesday 4 June at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. CNES President and IAF Vice-President Jean-Yves Le Gall spoke at one of the plenary sessions at the conference, where the main leaders and players from the world of space are gathered this week.

After the successful Global Space Exploration Conference in 2012 organized by IAF in Washington D.C., key players from the space sector are coming together again this year from Monday 2 to Wednesday 4 June at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris for the Global Space Applications Conference. IAF, a non-governmental organization founded in 1951 with 270 members from 64 countries and based in Paris, is thus pursuing its mission to connect industry, agencies and institutions with a view to fostering synergies in space.

The three-day event put on four plenary sessions and 16 technical sessions for the world's leading space players. Jean-Yves Le Gall spoke during the plenary session on 'The role of governmental agencies in developing space-based services', where he underlined the major economic spin-offs of space, the fact that 80% of CNES's budget is channelled back into French industry and that every euro invested in commercial space generates 20 euros for the economy. He also added that public policies make a notable contribution to developing space-based services. In metropolitan France, for example, the space sector supports 16,000 jobs and its space industry accounts for 40% of Europe's space industry as a whole.

After the plenary session, Jean-Yves Le Gall commented: "Through its ambitious and innovative space policy and its world-class industry, Europe is playing a pivotal role in developing space-based services. Programmes like Galileo and Copernicus are a great opportunity for the space industry and other industries, illustrating the value of pursuing a common European strategy to benefit the greatest number of people."

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