

## European Space Policy: A time for decisions

### OVERVIEW OF RECOMMENDED PATHS

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#### I. CLARIFY GOVERNANCE OF SPACE POLICY

- Establish a genuine European Union space programme, over a ten-year period, with a more comprehensive set of objectives and clearer governance principles
- Within this framework, make ESA the European Union space agency and enable national agencies to provide their expertise to the Commission
- Recognise independent access to space as a priority and therefore the need for Europe to use its own launchers
- Introduce a principle of reciprocity in the space sector which means only purchasing outside Europe if third markets are genuinely open to competition
- Promote closer relations between ESA and national agencies to avoid duplication and to enable ESA to benefit from expertise developed in Europe
- Streamline ESA operating rules taking into account enlargement, particularly with regard to the historic rule on geographical return which could move towards becoming a rule on 'fair contribution' so as not to hinder the competitiveness of the European industry
- In France, reintroduce space in the title of the ministry responsible for promoting its use to the general public
- In France, submit to Parliament regularly, for example a year before the renewal of the multiannual contract between the State and the National Centre of Space Studies (CNES), a space planning bill, subject to a prior opinion from the Parliamentary Office for the Evaluation of Scientific and Technological Choices (OPECST)
- In France, create a structure for coordinating government and industry efforts concerning space issues, using the model of the Civil Aviation Research Council (CORAC), chaired by an independent person

#### II. MAINTAIN SPACE BUDGETS DESPITE THE CRISIS

- Swiftly reintegrate the Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) programme into the Multiannual Financial Framework of the Union for 2014-2020
- At the same time ensure the safeguard of other European Union space budgets (Galileo, research).

With regard to France:

- Maintain France's long-term commitment to ESA, i.e. its contribution to the budget, to continue to be a driver in defining what European space policy should be, and to be in a position to implement the rules on 'geographical return' to the benefit of our industry as much as possible
- Continue to pay off France's debt to ESA
- Pursue action in line with the "Future Investment programme", which means consolidating French space budgets by promoting targeted expenditure to make our industry more competitive
- Present all the French space budgets in one document to possibly spur and be used in public debate

#### III. SUPPORT THE COMPETITIVENESS AND TECHNOLOGICAL INDEPENDENCE OF EUROPEAN INDUSTRY

- Develop European industries in key technological sectors for which there is dependence (hardened microelectronic components), monitor economic profitability of such industries once they are developed and concentrate available resources on a few strategic priorities
- Continue support for the European telecommunications satellite industry provided by major core

- programmes (very high-speed, new-generation platforms)
- Foster the development of an 'all-electric' satellite industry
- Ensure that an industrial impact study is conducted prior to taking any space policy decision

#### **IV. SAFEGUARD LONG-TERM INDEPENDENT ACCESS TO SPACE FOR EUROPE**

- Develop as swiftly as possible a new-generation modular launcher, with a restartable upper stage, prioritising cost reduction in order to boost its market competitiveness
- Present, by 2014 at the latest, a comprehensive development project for this new-generation launcher (configuration, industrial commitments, deadlines, costs)
- Then take a definitive decision about Ariane 5 ME to stop financing two projects that compete with one another
- Develop Vega to make it compatible with the new-generation launcher and Europeanise all of its components so that the launcher can fully participate in the objective of independent access to space for Europe

#### **V. REVITALISE SPACE DEFENCE POLICY**

- Give fresh impetus to European cooperation on observation programmes to promote the pooling of European space defence resources rather than their duplication
- In France, carry out the operational stages of early warning and listening watch programmes

#### **VI. TRACKING AND ADDRESSING SPACE DEBRIS**

- Implement existing rules, both national (law on space operations) and international (COPUOS, IADC), — especially by providing Europe with a launcher with a restartable upper stage—and reinforce these rules at international level so that 'virtuous' space users are not penalised
- Put in place a comprehensive European space monitoring system combining and supplementing the existing resources (for instance the French radar space tracking system, GRAVES)
- Carry out research for innovative technological solutions to clean up debris
- Include debris management and dismantling costs in the budgets of all missions
- Come up with methods to establish a price for orbital positions and/or frequencies in order to reduce 'speculation' (paper satellites) and to fund research on ways to eliminate debris

#### **VII. CONSIDER 'SPACE FOR EARTH' A PRIORITY**

- Actively pursue the implementation of GMES programme infrastructures to ensure continued production and consistent Earth observation data
- Put in place the management required for GMES applications and services to become operational
- Confirm European expertise in the area of Earth exploration by implementing both the infrastructure and the services required for Europe to take the lead in assessing global change

#### **VIII. PURSUE COST-EFFECTIVE SPACE EXPLORATION**

- Continue to participate in the International Space Station until 2020 in a technologically innovative way
- Study ISS dismantling methods and costs
- Maintain continuity over time of European scientific mission to consolidate its lead in this highly symbolic area of space policy
- Promote robotic missions with scientific innovation objectives that are cost effective, as much as possible within the framework of international cooperation efforts.