EUROPEAN SPACE PROGRAMME (framing the White Paper Action Plan)

First sketch

The "draft Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe" prepared by the Convention for the future of Europe refers in its article III-155 to a European Space Policy and the corresponding measures to be established, namely a **European space programme**.

The aim of this annex is to outline some essential features of such a programme and to indicate how it should be prepared.

1. DEFINITION

The European Space Programme (ESP) has to be seen as the implementation and benchmarking instrument for the European Space Policy. It should:

- provide a synthetic overview comprising all appropriate public and private space activities performed in Europe which contribute to EU policy objectives;
- constitute a co-ordination and harmonisation platform for the actions derived from the European Space Policy.

In particular, the ESP should:

- provide guidelines for the implementation of the programmatic and technical part of the Action Plan described in this White Paper;
- identify existing technological and financial gaps in the different areas;
- prioritise activities with regard to EU policy objectives;
- define the responsibilities and tasks of the different actors;
- indicate the timetable attached to the different tasks.

The ESP should be elaborated through a process of dialogue and consensus-building including all stakeholders (EU, ESA, Member States with their national space agencies, European organisations such as EUMETSAT, research organisations and European industry) following the "Technology platform" concept promoted by the EU.

2. INITIAL RELEASE

The first release of the ESP should in particular build upon:

- current EU political priorities;
- lessons drawn from the Green Paper consultation process;
- the ESA Executive plan "Agenda 2007"

The template below lists some key rubrics that would have to be considered when preparing the ESP. It (tentatively) allocates roles for carrying out the actions.

For each of the White Paper's main lines of action mention is made of:

- the actors involved in implementation;
- three time periods (ongoing, short and medium);
- EU policies which directly benefit from the corresponding activities.

A number of key stakeholders have been identified who would be in charge of the implementation of the respective lines of action (this list is only preliminary; several other actors should also be considered).

| EU | European Union |
|---|---|
| MS | Member States |
| EC | European Commission |
| ESA | European Space Agency |
| F.A. | The European Commission and ESA implement this line of action in compliance with the Framework Agreement (other actors can also be involved, such as Eumetsat). |
| Joint Undertaking/ Supervisory Authority | Entity created in accordance with the EU Treaty article 171 under the supervision of a public structure being in charge to protect public interests |
| Public Private Partnership (PPP) | Joint public/private investment |
| Private Sector | Manufacturers and service providers |
| Concessionaire | (Private) Operator identified to be in charge of the maintenance and operation of the infrastructure services considered |

| | LINES OF ACTION | On-Going (2003-2004) | Short Term (2004-2006) | Medium Term (2007-2013) | Policy Objectives covered * |
|--------------|--|---|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. SU | JPPORT OF THE ENLARGED EU | | | | |
| | "digital divide" | EC/ ESA** | EC/ ESA | PPP | 1/2/3 |
| SZ | Global Monitoring for Environment and Security | EC / ESA | EC / ESA | Joint undertaking | 1/2/3/4 |
| APPLICATIONS | Positioning, Navigation and Timing | Joint undertaking/ Supervisory authority | Joint undertaking / Supervisory authority | Concessionaire Supervising authority | 4 |
| AP | Security (Contribution to CFSP/ESDP) | <i>EU</i> / MS | EU /MS | <i>EU</i> / MS / (ESA) | 4 |
| Inter | national Partnerships | | | | |
| Spec | ific Actions for Third Countries (Eastern/Southern neighbours) | EC / ESA | EC / ESA | EC / ESA | 3 / 4 |
| Spec | ific Partnerships (Countries and international Organisations) | EU / ESA | EU / ESA | EU / ESA | 1/2/3/4 |
| 2. EX | KTENDING AND STRENGTHENING SPACE POLICY | | | | |
| Guar | ranteed and Independent Access to Space | | | | |
| Cont | ribution to European Space Launch Base Maintenance | MS / ESA | EU/MS/(ESA) | <i>EU</i> / MS | All |
| Laun | ncher R & D | ESA | ESA / EC | ESA / <i>EC</i> | All |
| Tech | nology | EC/ ESA / MS | EC/ESA/MS | EC/ ESA / MS | 1 / 4 |
| Spac | e Exploration (incl. Aurora and ISS) | MS / ESA | MS / ESA | MS / ESA / <i>EC</i> | 1 |
| Voca | ations, Careers & Education | ESA / EC / MS | ESA / EC / MS | ESA / EC / MS | 1 / 2 / 3 |
| 3. SF | PACE SCIENCES | | | | |
| Scien | nces of the Universe | ESA | ESA / EC | <i>ESA</i> /EC | 1 |
| Earth | 1 Sciences | MS / ESA / EC | MS / ESA / EC | MS / ESA / EC | 1 |
| Life | and Physical Sciences | MS / ESA / EC | MS / ESA / EC | MS / ESA / EC | 1 |

^{*} Policy Objectives as outlined in the White Paper are :

^{1:} Knowledge-Based Society & Economic Growth;

^{2 :} Enlargement;

^{3 :} Sustainable Development;

^{4:} CFSP/ESDP.

^{**} Entities mentioned in bold/italic characters are proposed to be assigned an additional role and corresponding resources as defined in the White Paper.

ROADMAP

| Recommended Actions | Responsibility | Timetable |
|---|----------------|---------------------|
| SUPPORT OF THE ENLARGED EU | | |
| "digital divide" | | |
| Setting-up a forum on Digital Divide | EC | early 2004 |
| Reporting on the results of the forum | EC | Summer 2004 |
| Assessing of possible solutions | EC / MS | by the end of 2004 |
| Setting up of pilot projects | EC | short/medium term |
| GLOBAL MONITORING FOR ENVIRONMENT AND SECURITY | | |
| Communication on GMES (2004-2008 Action Plan) | EC | January 2004 |
| Proposing scenarios for the interface between civil and security usage | EC | short / medium term |
| POSITIONING, NAVIGATION AND TIMING | | |
| Negotiating overall agreement for the management of the next phase | JU/SA/C* | short term |
| Undertaking further research activities for innovative applications | JU* | short / medium term |
| Ensuring the availability of regulating procedures | JU/SA* | continuous |
| SECURITY (CONTRIBUTION TO CFSP/ESDP) | | |
| Establishing a report, through an EU dedicated working group | EU/MS/(ESA) | by the end of 2004 |
| Launching of preparatory action on security research: Communication (with work programme) | EC | January 2004 |
| INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP | | |
| Developing a strategy for international space co-operation | EU/ESA | 2004 |
| Organising an international conference on space | EC | end 2004 |
| Building specific partnerships (with countries and international organisations) | EU/ESA | continuous |
| Co-operating with developing countries | EC/ESA | continuous |
| EXTENDING AND STRENGTHENING SPACE POLICY | | |
| GUARANTEED AND INDEPENDENT ACCESS TO SPACE | | |
| Contribution to European space launch base maintenance | MS/(ESA)/EU | continuous |
| Launcher R & D | ESA / EC | continuous |
| Technology, network of centers | EC/ESA/MS | continuous |
| SPACE TECHNOLOGY | | |
| Reinforcing European Space Technology Master Plan | EU/ESA/MS | continuous |
| Promoting technology transfer | EU/ESA/MS | continuous |
| SPACE EXPLORATION | | |
| Setting up of a wise persons group to deliver a vision for space exploration | EC/ESA | early 2004 |
| Accessing/ensuring the availability of core capabilities | EC/ESA | continuous |
| Vocations, Careers & Education | | |
| Actions in support of education and promotion of careers | EC/ESA/MS | continuous |
| Organising an information and promotion campaigns | EC/ESA/MS | short / medium term |
| SPACE SCIENCES | | |

| Scientific research | ESA / EC | continuous |
|--|-----------|--------------------|
| Supporting infrastructure for data acquisition and archiving | EC | continuous |
| CREATING THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT FOR INNOVATION AND COMPETITIVENESS | | |
| Progressing towards an harmonised market for space services | EU/MS | continuous |
| Ensuring the participation of SMEs | EU/ESA/MS | continuous |
| Shaping guidelines for future public/private financing initiatives | EC | short term |
| GOVERNANCE AND RESOURCES | | |
| GOVERNANCE | | |
| First phase (implementation under the recently agreed Framework Agreement) | EC/ESA | 2004-2007 |
| First draft of the European Space Programme | EC/ESA/MS | end of 2004 |
| Proposals for setting up networks of technical centres | EC/ESA/MS | by the end of 2004 |
| | | |

* JU: Joint Undertaking; SA: Supervisory Authority; C: Concessionaire

RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

The aim of this annex is to provide an overview of the financial resources which would be required for implementing the European Space Policy presented in this White Paper, preserving the European Space "acquis" while developing future opportunities. After a brief overview of the resources currently earmarked, several key scenarios are presented.

Numerous voices (e.g. through the Green Paper consultation, the recent reports from the European Parliament and European Economic and Social Committee) have stressed that the investment on space has to be seen as a source of innovation.

As such, it contributes to the EU and national initiatives for growth¹, because the deployment of advanced infrastructures will enable the emergence of new added-value services. Investment in the space sector is also part of the objective of having the EU invest 3% GDP on R&D by 2010² (although several dimensions of the space policy address non-R&D aspects)³.

A more vigorous investment on space-related activities in Europe in the period to come should be reflected by a proper EU budget appropriation. This should help to exert leverage on other public activities in the space field as well as on the private sector, and to encourage them to intensify their investment.

1. Past and foreseen EC financial expenditure on space (1995-2006)

Table 1 summarises the evolution of EC expenditure on space over the period 1995 to 2006, which shows a significant increase over the years (although the absolute amounts remain modest when compared to the national and inter-governmental efforts).

Most of the investment is to be qualified as R&D resources, either directly drawn from the R&D 5th and 6th Framework programmes or from the Trans-European networks – Transport budget line. GALILEO is the main application developed during that period.

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Space applications like GALILEO, GMES are foreseen to be part of the Commission's "Quick-start" initiative to be presented at the next European Council. A "Digital Divide" initiative is also proposed.

² COM(2003) 226 final: Investing in research: an action plan for Europe

in 2003, the total European public investment devoted to space-related activities amounted to 0.06% of the EU GDP

| Table 1: EC expenditure on space-related activities – 1995 -> 2006 (in M€) | | | | | |
|---|------|------|-----|--|--|
| (1995 – 1998) (1999 – 2002) (2003-2006) | | | | | |
| FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME + JRC | ~150 | ~280 | 475 | | |
| GALILEO 270* 280** | | | | | |
| TOTAL | ~150 | ~550 | 755 | | |
| *: Definition and development **: Development | | | | | |

2. Estimated annual public funding in Europe in 2004

Annual public sector expenditure in space in 2004 in Europe is estimated at the level of 5380 M€, from five main sources:

| Table 2: Estimated public expenditure in Space in Europe (M€) (2004) | | | | |
|---|--------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| European Space Agency | 2700** | | | |
| Member States | 1600 | (national civil activities) | | |
| | 550 | (national military activities) | | |
| Eumetsat | 300 | | | |
| EC* | 230 | | | |
| TOTAL 5380 | | | | |
| *: corresponding figures only include earmarked budgetary resources **ESA expenditure in recent years: 1999 (2400); 2000 (2299); 2001 (2522); 2002 (2812) | | | | |

The EC contribution presented in Table 2 is exclusively composed of resources drawn from the following financial instruments:

- Trans-European networks Transport (5 years): 550 M€/year
- 6th Framework programme (2002-2006): priority "information society": p.m.; priority "aeronautics & space": 235 M€; priority "sustainable environment, transport and energy": 50 M€; Joint Research Centre space-related activities: 50 M€; priority "nanotechnologies and materials" or "research infrastructures" for an estimated total of 40 M€. The total expenditure is about 475 M€.

Other investments may be used, on an individual project basis: Structural funds, TACIS, FED, MEDA, although there is no pre-determined allocation for space-related activities.

3. Possible scenarios (2004-2013)

Following the Green Paper consultation and in line with the European Parliament recommendation, the White Paper highlights the need to develop an ambitious European Space Policy.

In order to reach its objectives, the Union must support in priority space applications. Additional resources will also have to be devoted to the "enablers" of such applications (e.g.

technology and access to space in particular) with special attention given to international cooperations.

For the Policy to be successfully deployed, a programme of actions - which is described in the White Paper - would have to be implemented to complement the ongoing and planned activities in Europe.

Two phases have been identified for the implementation of the European Space Policy, taking into account the current (2000-2006) and future (2007-2013) EU Financial Perspectives:

- first phase (2004-2006), based on existing Financial Perspectives. Resources during this phase will have to be managed through the existing financial instruments and within the current budgetary constraints. Additional budgetary resources might be made available through the sectorial policies on case-by-case basis. Opportunities might also occur under the future initiative for growth to be proposed for endorsement at the next European Council in December 2003;
- second phase (2007-2013), to be part of the future Financial Perspectives, which are currently the subject of initial reflections within the Commission. These could lead to the identification of a "space virtual budget line", supporting the shared competence between EU and Member States on space granted by the future Constitutional Treaty.

The analysis of global economic factors and of the projections about the future EU growth rate suggest several possible scenarios. These must also take into account considerations which are more specific to the European space sector, in particular:

- the outcome of the Green Paper consultation (including the declared objective of doubling public investment on space in Europe by 2010);
- ESA Executive plans ("Agenda 2007");
- the analysis of the EC expenditures on space over the last 10 years.

An additional issue concerns whether the EU decides to intervene in security/defence on a larger scale. Variants of the key scenarios are presented in graphic 1 to single out this option.

Last, any progression of the resources must be gradual, to ensure absorption capabilities are developed in a sustainable way.

On that basis, three main scenarios are described, together with an estimate of the resources which they would require.

Scenario A is the "Green paper" scenario. It reflects the needs identified during the Green paper consultation. This package represents an annual expenditure growth rate of 4.6% with respect to the overall public level of funding in 2003 (5380 M€). This is an aggressive/ambitious scenario, which would require a high level a global economic growth in order to be sustainable for the public contributors. Scenario A is compliant with all objectives identified, including space exploration and significant security/defence related space developments. This scenario is consistent with the ESA executive objectives described in its "Agenda 2007".

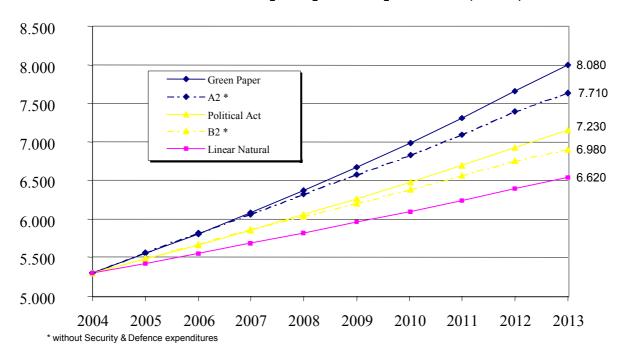
Scenario *B* is the "political act" scenario. It corresponds to an annual expenditure growth rate of 3.4% and marks a new departure for space in Europe, with the entry into force of the new Constitutional treaty of the EU. This is an ambitious scenario, with a growth rate higher than the global growth rate of the EU economy. Scenario B is compliant with the overall EU objectives.

Scenario C is the "linear natural" scenario, built as a linear expansion of the current level of EC expenditures. It corresponds to an annual public expenditure growth rate of 2.3 %. Scenario C does not fully guarantee independence vis-à-vis technology and access to space.

A first estimate of the European public expenditure needed to implement the White paper action plan is presented in Table 3; the evolutions of the different options are shown in Graphic 1 (without inflation). Like for all activities with a long lead time, it is important to embed these expenses in a multi-annual plan and budget.

The corresponding estimated increase in the multi-annual European expenditure is presented in Table 4.

Evolution of European public expenditure (in M€)



| Table 3: |
|--|
| Estimated European public annual expenditure on space activities (in M€) |

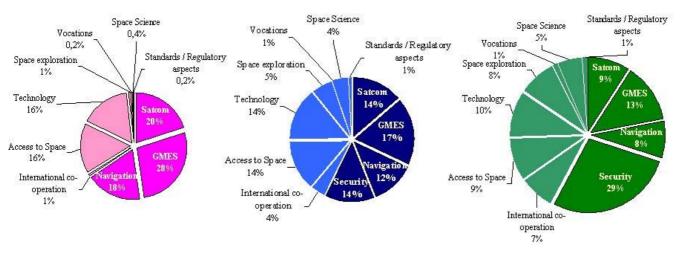
| | On-going (2004) | In 2006 | | In 2013 (projections) | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------|------|--------------------------|------|------|------|
| Scenarios -> | | Α | В | С | Α | В | C |
| INCREASE IN COMPARISON WITH | - | 500 | 400 | 300 | 2700 | 1850 | 1240 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | |
| ANNUAL PUBLIC EXPENDITURE | 5380 | 5880 | 5780 | 5680 | 8080 | 7710 | 6620 |

Scenarios for different annual expenditure growth rates: A) 4.6 % B) 3.4% C) 2.3%

| | | scenario A ⁽ⁱ⁾ | scenario B ⁽ⁱⁱ⁾ | scenario C(iii) |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| SNO | SATELLITE COMMUNICATION** | 250 | 250 | 250 |
| ATIC | GMES** | 340 | 340 | 340 |
| APPLICATIONS | Positioning, navigation, Timing** | 220 | 220 | 220 |
| ΑĒ | SECURITY | 750 | 250 | 0 |
| INTERN | ATIONAL CO-OPERATION | 200 | 70 | 10 |
| Access | TO SPACE ** | 250 | 250 | 200 |
| TECHNO | DLOGY ** | 270 | 270 | 200 |
| SPACE I | EXPLORATION | 220 | 100 | 10 |
| Vocati | ONS | 30 | 20 | 3 |
| SPACE S | SCIENCE | 140 | 65 | 5 |
| LEGISLA STANDA | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | 30 | 15 | 2 |
| TOTAL | , | 2700 | 1850 | 1240 |

⁽i):annual expenditure growth rate of 4.6%

The darker areas of each pie chart show the "applications" while the lighter ones represent the "enablers".



Linear natural Political act Green paper

⁽ii):annual expenditure growth rate of 3.4%

⁽iii): annual expenditure growth rate of 2.3%

^{*:}additional to the present expenditure of 5380 M€

^{**:}EIB possible additional intervention under discussion; funding plan already decided for GALILEO

Concluding remarks

Whatever scenario is retained, the following remarks apply:

There should be no simple transfer of funds: an extra effort from the EU in the field of space, driven by the need to support applications of EU interest at the service of EU policies, should not be considered as a pretext for Member states to "pass the burden" to the EU budget and to reduce accordingly their own expenditures. On the contrary, this should act as an incentive to match EU's new investments.

Actions undertaken under the EU framework are optimised for the collective benefit of the EU as a whole. The optimisation of national interest is to be sought under national or intergovernmental investments and mechanisms.

Apply more innovative types of support: space has, up to now, been mostly confined to R&D budgets, with their inherent limitations. Complementary sources of funding and mechanisms should be more systematically considered in the future such as: Public Private Partnership (already in use for GALILEO, it could be applied for the "Digital divide" initiative); a larger role for the European Investment Bank (cf. "Innovation 2010 initiative"); innovative investments under Structural funds.

Last, the level of resources devoted to space-related activities cannot grow indefinitely. Depending on the type of scenario retained for implementing the set of actions recommended is this White paper, one would expect the level of public investment to enter a stabilised "cruising regime" between 2013 and 2020.

The **leverage effect** of the public funding in the space sector represents an added value this sector can generate vis-à-vis other EU policies.

GREEN PAPER CONSULTATION PROCESS: MAIN MESSAGES

The Green Paper on European Space Policy was adopted by the European Commission on 21 January 2003. Its aim was to initiate a debate on the medium- and long-term future use of space for the benefit of Europe.

The Green Paper process has encompassed a series of events, workshops and meetings spanning the continent and drawing contributions from hundreds of representatives of the space community.

The debate was open from the industrial and institutional players down to the ordinary citizen.

The Joint Task Force composed of representatives of the Commission services and ESA organised joint workshops in several European capitals, focussing on specific themes and communities. The consultation was complemented with an open website forum.

The following table summarises the most relevant messages received:

| Consultation workshop/event | Main messages |
|---|---|
| The Industrial View | Revitalise the current situation for the European space industry Need for a wider institutional market with greater EU engagement Guarantee access to space as a strategic need Stimulate new vocations by new European flagship programmes in space Need for EU regulations (harmonisation) |
| | Fill the gaps of strategic space technology |
| The View of the Scientific Community | Stop the reduction of funding; double the budget for Space sciences Need for a coherent data policy (harmonised dissemination) Support to horizontal and infrastructure activities Support ISS utilisation and operations |
| The Institutional View | Need for a European Space Policy discussed at the highest political level A legitimate role for the EU in the context of European Space Policy A legitimate role for ESA in the context of European Institutions Support to the shared competence principle (Constitutional Treaty) |
| Security and Defense | Space as key element supporting CFSD/ESDP |
| Aspects | Develop multiple-use capabilities |
| • | Co-ordinate present activities in view of the future European Armaments Agency |
| The View of the Operators and Service Providers | Space applications key components of European space policy, bringing concrete benefits to European citizens Need for a joint ESA/EU initiative on broadband communication (bridging the "digital divide") Importance of Earth observation (a strategic issue) Use of satellite navigation for the benefit of European citizens' life |
| The International Context | Space as a contributor to the success of Enlargement Russia and Ukraine as the closest partners of the enlarged Union Space as a strategic tool to develop/implement international co- operation |
| The Website Forum | Need for flagship programmes in space Support to the exploration of the solar system Need for long-term vision including human spaceflight |

The complete EC/ESA report on the outcome of the consultation process is available on the following website: http://europa.eu.int/comm/space/index_en.html

The list of the contributors having responded or participated to the Green Paper consultation process is enclosed.

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- Mr G. Beretta, president ESOA
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- Prof R. Bonnet, former ESA Director of Science
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Mr K. Madders, Systemics Network International

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Mr T. Pirard, Space Information Center

Mr R. Williams, Eumetsat

Mr S. Buffetaut, European Economic and Social Committee

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| Advisory Board of Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear | Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy Belgium | Czech Astronomical Institute Czech Republic |
| Power in Space International | Belgian Minister of Defence Belgium | Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports Czech |
| AECMA - European Association of Aerospace Ind. Belgium | United Kingdom Department for Environment Food and Rural | Republic |
| AENA - Aeropuertos Españoles y Navegación Aérea Spain | Affairs United Kingdom | Czech National Committee for Space Research Czech |
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| AIAD - The Italian Industries Association for Aerospace Systems | United Kingdom Minister for Science and Technology United | Demos United Kingdom |
| and Defence Italy | Kingdom | Deutsche Bundesregierung Germany |
| Airclaims United Kingdom | United Kingdom Ministry of Defence/BNSCUnited Kingdom | Deutschland Funk / German Nat'l Radio Hamburg |
| AirPresse Italy | British National Space Centre United Kingdom | DLR - German Aerospace Centre Belgium/Germany |
| ALCATEL France | British Telecom United Kingdom | DNV - Det Norske Veritas Norway |
| Alcatel France | Bureau Space News - Paris France | DOTARS - Department of Transport and Regional Services (AT) |
| Alcatel Espacio Spain | Cabinet Yvan Ylieff Belgium | Austria |
| Alcatel ETCA Belgium | | Dutch Agency for Aerospace Programmes The Netherlands |
| Alcatel Space France | Canadian Embassy in Germany Germany | Dutch Government The Netherlands |
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| Astrophysikalisches Institut Postdam Germany | CNES / CFCIB Belgium | EARSC - European Association of Remote Sensing Companies |
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The Acronym Institute for Disarmament Diplomacy

GLOSSARY

Aurora: the European space agency programme for the exploration of the solar system. The objective is to formulate and to implement a European long-term plan for the robotic and human exploration of solar system bodies holding promise for traces of life. The Aurora programme aims at bringing about a coherent European framework for exploration and to progressively develop a unified European approach; it is open to international co-operation.

CFSP: Common Foreign and Security Policy.

Concessionaire: Operator identified as in charge of the maintenance, operation and viability of public owned infrastructure.

CSG (Centre Spatial Guyanais): Europe's spaceport operated by Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales under an agreement with the European Space Agency. Strategic facility aimed at providing Europe with access to space with the optimal geographical conditions for launching.

Digital Divide: Inequality in the capability of access by broadband technology connectivity (i.e. Internet services) to knowledge society. It is measurable in terms of widespread availability of the connection or in cost of the connection in comparison to a benchmark.

EGAS (European Guaranteed Access to Space programme): Approved by ESA Ministerial Meeting and planned for 2005-2009, the programme provides short and medium term support for the European launcher service both in French Guyane and in continental Europe, and stresses the conditions required for its long-term stability.

European Space Agency (ESA): Intergovernmental Organisation constituted in 1975. Currently composed of the following Member States: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

ESDP: European Security and Defence Policy.

European Space Policy: In order to create a more secure framework for the benefit of space in Europe, the EU seeks to build a European Space Policy which is demand driven and supports other EU policies.

European Space Programme (ESP): A multi-annual programme to develop the European Space Policy.

ESTMP (European Space Technology Master Plan): This plan consolidates the overall process for space R&D through a joint effort involving ESA, the European Commission and industry, and highlights a number of separate harmonised technology areas. The new ESTMP refers to all the institutional actors, describing technology activities in Europe, strategies and funding approaches, readiness level and relationship with European partners, including a database of technology activities.

EU (European Union): Formed by the following twenty five Member States (as of 1st May 2004): Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

European Union Satellite Centre (EUSC): Located in Torrejón de Ardoz in Spain, it is the direct successor of the Western European Union Satellite Centre.**Framework Agreement**: A formal agreement between the European Community and the European Space Agency, defining the principles and mechanisms of a reinforced co-operation on space-related matters.

GALILEO: Europe's global radionavigation satellite system. Joint EU/ESA project composed of a constellation of 30 satellites in medium Earth orbit. GALILEO will provide users with highly accurate timing and positioning services.

GMES (Global Monitoring for the Environment and Security): GMES is a joint EU/ESA initiative combining space and in-situ observing systems to support EU's goals regarding sustainable development and global governance. **Joint undertaking:** Legal entity created in accordance with Article 171 of the European Community Treaty. A joint undertaking is mandated for the efficient execution of research, technological development and demonstration programmes.

Networks of centres: a cost efficient way to associate the various space national actors for the implementation of European activities under the same umbrella. The network encourages integration and improve co-operation; it also increases specialisation and reduction of overall costs.

PPP (Public Private Partnership): Structure composed of representatives from the public and private sector for the operation of infrastructure and the provision of services. This structure determines that the responsibilities, roles and risks are shared between the public and private sectors.

Shared competence: Field of competence that is shared between the EU and its Member States.

Supervisory Authority: Structure created by an EU Council Regulation aiming at managing the public interest in a PPP type of project.

White Paper: White papers are documents containing proposals for EU action in a specific area. While Green papers set out a range of ideas presented for public debate, White papers contain an official set of proposals in specific policy areas and are used as vehicles for their development.