**ESA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE: NEXT ERA OF SPACE**

Every two to three years the European Space Agency holds its council at Ministerial level.

At the next, on 1 and 2 December in Lucerne, Switzerland, Ministers in charge of space activities from the 22 ESA Member States and Canada will meet to decide on future space activities for Europe. This meeting will further the vision of a United Space in Europe in the era of Space 4.0.

10:00:00

**A ROLL**

**[TITLE] ESA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE: NEXT ERA OF SPACE**

[Europe at night shots from the ISS]

ESA and its Member States will be taking important decisions on the future of space for Europe…

[Animation of BepiColombo mission]

In Lucerne, programmes in a number of areas will be put on the table for approval - ranging from ESA’s science and technology…

[GVs Tim Peake spacewalk – Jan 2016]

…future plans for human spaceflight and robotics…

[Animation of Ariane 6]

…to new launchers, space safety and space traffic management.

10:00:39

[Inset clip: Mauro Dell’Ambrogio, Co-president ESA Ministerial Council]

*“The challenge is to find consensus between Member States about programmes. It’s a question of priorities. It’s a question of money. It’s a question of competition between countries as well but in a framework of cooperation.”*

10:00:54

[Archive ESA 50 years footage and Samantha Cristoforetti on the ISS, Futura mission]

ESA recently celebrated 50 years in space. During that time the space agency has sent European men and women to the International Space Station, furthered science and innovation, monitored our planet’s health through Earth Observation satellites and fostered international partnerships.

[GVs Norwegian air ambulance]

Access to space has also helped improve our everyday lives - be it by enabling prompt action for disaster relief or simply getting from one place to another.

[GVs Galileo clean room]

And space applications are becoming more and more important - from programmes in partnership with the European Union like Galileo, providing Europe with its own global navigation satellite system –

[Animation Sentinel satellite]

to Copernicus, which offers extremely valuable data to improve the understanding of our planet and its environment. All this is possible thanks to a European independent access to space.

[GVs Ariane 5 launch, November 2016]

Ariane 5 has now broken the record of 75 consecutive successes for European launchers.

[GVs Soyuz and Vega launchers]

At the European spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana, Ariane together with Soyuz… and Vega, are securing their road to space with the capability to send any satellite on any orbit. The next step is to develop new launchers- including small launchers - attain lower costs and continue to be competitive on a worldwide level.

10:03:29

[Inset clip: Mauro Dell’Ambrogio, Co-president ESA Ministerial Council]

*“The most important success during the Swiss co-presidency of ESA is that we reached an agreement about the free access into space and then deepened that access to space for Europe to be able to start a project for a new generation of launchers.”*

[Still image comet 67P with animations of Rosetta, Gaia and Lisa Pathfinder missions]

ESA’s robotic space science missions are transforming our understanding of the universe – be it by making unprecedented studies of a comet, mapping the stars in our galaxy or testing the boundaries of new technologies.

[GVs Cheops clean room and EDRS animation]

Continued funding will ensure future missions, such as Cheops, which will search for planets outside our solar system. And they play a crucial role in Europe’s growing space economy which requires investments in new satellites and technologies like Globenet – a high-speed data network in space based on the European Data Relay System.

In fact many new ideas are on the table in all domains.

[Inset clip: Mauro Dell’Ambrogio, Co-president ESA Ministerial Council]

*“In general, about principles it is easy to converge. When it’s a question of money and distribution of industrial return then hard negotiations are sometimes necessary.”*

[Kourou clean room into northern Europe at night from the ISS]

ESA’s Ministerial meeting will meet these negotiations head on and will to continue to fight for independent access to space to ensure a better future for Europe at a competitive price and with the best return for the economy of Member States. ESA is ready to enter Space 4.0, promoting a united space in Europe for inspiration, interaction, innovation and information.

10:04:09

[ENDS]

B-ROLL

[TITLE] Mauro Dell’Ambrogio, Co-president ESA Ministerial Council (English)

*“The challenge is to find consensus between Member States about programmes. It’s a question of priorities. It’s a question of money. It’s a question of competition between countries as well but in a framework of cooperation.”*

*“Of course from my point of view the most important success during the Swiss co-presidency of ESA is that we reached an agreement about the free access into space and then deepened that access to space for Europe to be able to start a project for a new generation of launchers.”*

*“In general, about principles it is easy to converge. When it’s a question of money and distribution of industrial return then hard negotiations are sometimes necessary.”*

10:05:11

[TITLE] Mauro Dell’Ambrogio, Co-president ESA Ministerial Council (French)

Four soundbites in French

10:07:20

[TITLE] Mauro Dell’Ambrogio, Co-president ESA Ministerial Council (Italian)

Four soundbites in Italian

10:09:52

[TITLE] Mauro Dell’Ambrogio, Co-president ESA Ministerial Council (German)

Three soundbites in German

10:12:11

[TITLE] Spain, France, Italy from the ISS, Timelapse

10:12:44

END