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CNES and ONERA sign new framework agreement

Monday 30 March, CNES President Jean-Yves Le Gall and Bruno Sainjon, Chairman & CEO of ONERA, the French aeronautics, space and defence research laboratory, signed a new framework agreement at ONERA's head office in Palaiseau through which the two agencies will step up their science and technology cooperation.

As envisioned at the agencies' bilateral meeting last October, this new agreement will govern joint efforts by CNES and ONERA in launchers and orbital systems for a period of five years.

In the field of launchers, the two agencies will conduct joint system studies and launcher R&T with a view to developing future reusable launch vehicles.

In the field of orbital systems, CNES and ONERA will explore cooperation in various areas such as aerothermodynamics (re-entry of orbital debris), flight controls and electromagnetic propagation.

The framework agreement follows the launch of six programmes of shared interest last year and marks a new step towards closer cooperation between CNES and ONERA.

After the signing of the agreement, CNES President Jean-Yves Le Gall commented: "I am delighted with this new agreement that is going to give fresh impetus to cooperation between CNES and ONERA. We are now geared up to align our exploratory research actions and ensure that France and Europe remain pivotal players in space." ONERA Chairman & CEO Bruno Sainjon commented: "This framework agreement will further cement our joint efforts in the three fundamental fields of launchers, orbital systems and science missions."

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