**Ministerial 2016: Into Space 4.0\_FINAL**

Ministers from ESA’s 22 member states plus Canada and Slovenia have agreed a €10.3 billion package of space programme funding. At the two-day council meeting at ministerial level in Lucerne, Switzerland, subscriptions were agreed for a future Mars rover mission, continued funding of missions to the International Space Station, new elements of ESA’s launcher programme as well as developments in telecommunications, Earth observation and technology.

**A-roll**

**10:00:15**

[Mars Ice Cap animation, Mars surface animation, animation of ExoMars 2020 Mars rover - all from ExoMars science B-roll]

Europe will be going back to Mars in 2020.

ESA has two satellites in orbit around the red planet – Mars Express and the Trace Gas Orbiter – and now Ministers from ESA member states have agreed to continue funding the next stage of the ExoMars programme – which will include a robotic rover. Due to land on Mars in 2021, the rover will be the first mission to drill beneath the surface to look for signs of life.

**[**Lucerne GVs and and Swiss President arriving into President introduction with upsound]

Support for ExoMars is part of a 10.3 billion Euro programme of space activities agreed by science Ministers in Lucerne, covering all aspects of space…from exploring the universe and Earth observation, to satellite communications and applications on the ground.

The ESA Council meeting at Ministerial level was opened by the Swiss president Johann Schneider-Ammann…

…and was the first for the new ESA Director General…

**10:01:15**

[Jan Woerner, ESA Director General]

*The beauty of ESA is that we have the diverse member states with diverse interests. So our proposals are covering all the different interests and overall we got this big contribution.*

**10:01:28**

[Ministerial photo call GVs]

As well as agreeing funding, delegates at the Ministerial meeting adopted a resolution supporting the Director General’s vision for Space 4.0 – towards a United Space in Europe with ESA committing to inform, innovate, interact and Inspire.

**10:01:44**

[Jan Woerner, ESA Director General]

*It’s about digitalisation, new technologies, new participation models – everything is linked to space 4.0*

**10:01:52**

[Ariane 5 17 November launch, into Ariane 6 animation and Space Rider still, Galileo satellites in Arianespace clean room]

A few days before the meeting, Ariane 5 completed its 75th successful launch in a row…to put four Galileo satellites into orbit. Ministers agreed to continue securing Europe’s access to space with new launchers…while also supporting Space rider, a new re-entry vehicle. They also supported Galileo and research to develop new applications for satellite navigation.

[Thomas Pesquet arrives at the ISS, Tim Peake and Tim Kopra spacewalk Jan 2016, Samantha Cristoforetti inside the ISS]

While ministers and officials negotiated in Lucerne, one ESA employee, Thomas Pesquet, was 400 kilometres above the Earth on the International Space Station.

Investment in human spaceflight inspires the next generation of scientists and engineers, advances science, technology and medicine…and will ultimately take humans to the Moon, Mars and beyond. Ministers have agreed to continue supporting the space station programme until 2024 – bringing Europe in line with its international partners.

[AIM animation from Ministerial Technology B-roll]

The two-day Ministerial meeting always involves negotiation and some projects – such as AIM – the Asteroid Impact Mission, did not achieve full support. ESA will continue to evaluate the technical possibilities of this mission…which involves changing the flight path of a tiny asteroid moon. Overall, the hosts, were pleased with the outcome…

**10:03:17**

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

*It’s always a bit complicated within ESA to make decisions but the system is solid, is resilient, in the sense that the commitment of the countries – the different member states – are there and it’s up to the executive to make a clear implementation for the following years.*

**10:03:36**

[Europe from ISS - timelapse from Ministerial: the next era of space VNR]

With funding agreed…we can expect more exciting years for Europe in space…with benefits for everyone on Earth.

**10:03:46**

**B-roll**

1. Jan Woerner, ESA Director General - 2 soundbites (English)

**10:05:32**

2. Jan Woerner, ESA Director General - 2 soundbites (German)

**10:08:03**

3. Mauro Dell’Ambrogio, Co-President ESA Ministerial Council - 1 soundbite (English)

**10:08:33**

4. Mauro Dell’Ambrogio, Co-President ESA Ministerial Council - 1 soundbite (German)

**10:09:18**

5. Mauro Dell’Ambrogio, Co-President ESA Ministerial Council - 2 soundbites (French)

**10:10:21**

6. Mauro Dell’Ambrogio, Co-President ESA Ministerial Council - 1 soundbite (Italian)

**10:11:30**

7. Lucerne GVs exteriors - note, no ambient sound recorded

**10:13:44**

8. Ministerial delegations GVs (interior), shows (in order): Switzerland, Luxembourg, Austria, Belgium, France, Italy, Portugal, Greece, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Canada, European External Action Service-Bulgaria-Croatia-Eumetsat, Eumetsat, Malta-Slovak Republic, Cyprus-Latvia, Slovenia, Poland, Romania, Finland, Ireland, Norway, United Kingdom, Denmark, Sweden, Spain,

**10:20:31**

9. Swiss President (Johann Schneider-Ammann) welcome and photocall GVs

**10:21:56**

**[ends]**