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**Argentina
and
European Space Agency**

Agreement between the Government of the Argentine Republic and the European Space Agency concerning space cooperation for peaceful purposes. Buenos Aires, 11 March 2002

Entry into force: *22 September 2003 by notification, in accordance with article 9*

Authentic texts: *English and Spanish*

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**Argentine
et
Agence spatiale européenne**

Accord entre le Gouvernement de la République argentine et l'Agence spatiale européenne concernant la coopération spatiale à des fins pacifiques. Buenos Aires, 11 mars 2002

Entrée en vigueur : *22 septembre 2003 par notification, conformément à l'article 9*

Textes authentiques : *anglais et espagnol*

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
AND
THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY
CONCERNING SPACE COOPERATION FOR
PEACEFUL PURPOSES

The Government of the Argentine Republic (hereinafter referred to as "Argentina"), and

The European Space Agency, established by the Convention which was opened for signature in Paris on 30 May 1975 and entered into force on 30 October 1980 (hereinafter referred to as "the Agency"),

(hereinafter together referred to as "the Parties"),

RECALLING that the purpose of the Agency is to provide for and to promote, for exclusively peaceful purposes, cooperation among European States in space research and technology and their space applications,

NOTING that space has become a factor in technological, economic and cultural development,

CONSIDERING the wish expressed by Argentina to cooperate with the Agency,

DESIRING to establish mechanisms to facilitate and intensify cooperation between the Parties on mutually advantageous activities connected with the peaceful use of outer space,

CONVINCED of the benefits that such cooperation can bring to each Party,

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, done on 27 January 1967, and other multilateral agreements on the exploration and use of outer space to which the Government of Argentina and Member States of the Agency are parties and which the Agency has accepted,

HAVING REGARD to the Agreement between the European Space Agency and the Comisión Nacional de Actividades Espaciales of Argentina (hereinafter referred to as CONAE) concerning the direct Reception, Archiving, Processing and Distribution of ERS-1 and ERS-2 SAR Data signed on 7 October 1997,

HAVING REGARD to the Convention establishing the Agency and in particular Article XIV.1 thereof, on international cooperation, which states that "The Agency may, upon decisions of the Council taken by unanimous votes of all Member States, cooperate with other international organisations and institutions and with Governments, organisations and institutions of non-member States, and conclude agreements with them to this effect",

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1

Purpose

The purpose of this Agreement is to establish a legal framework for cooperation between the Parties in the field of research and peaceful use of outer space and the conditions for implementing projects of mutual interest.

ARTICLE 2

Areas of cooperation

1. The Parties shall keep each other informed on all their respective activities and programmes and on their progress and shall consult regularly, according to the procedures set out in Article 3 below, on areas offering potential for cooperation.

2. Among the areas considered by the Parties as offering potential for cooperation under the Agreement the following are specifically mentioned:

a. Space science, in particular space astronomy and astrophysics, solar system exploration and solar-terrestrial physics;

b. Earth observation research and applications, in particular environmental monitoring, meteorology, aeronomy and geodesy, disaster management;

c. Telecommunications, in particular service demonstrations and satellite navigation;

d. Microgravity research, in particular space biology and medicine, and materials processing;

e. Ground segment engineering and utilisation.

Upon signature of this Agreement, CONAE referred to in Article 3.1 below, on behalf of Argentina, shall notify the Agency of the areas that are of particular interest to it. Upon identifying a programme of mutual interest, the Parties shall conclude specific implementing arrangements defining their rights and obligations in accordance with the provisions of Article 3.1 below.

3. The Parties agree, with a view of realising cooperative projects in the areas identified pursuant to the paragraph 2 above, to facilitate the exchange of scientists and engineers, the exchange of information as well as the contacts between the industries concerned.

4. The cooperation shall also extend to:
 - a. the award of fellowships to enable the nominees of either Party to undertake training or other scientific or technical activities at institutions proposed by the awarding Party;
 - b. the exchange of experts to participate in studies;
 - c. the holding of joint conferences and symposia;
 - d. joint promotion of the use of products and services developed under the Agency's programmes;
 - e. promote educational activities in space science and technology;
 - f. provision of expert opinions and assistance in space project management.
5. The Parties shall consult as appropriate on matters of common interest on the exploration and use of outer space on the agenda of the meetings of international bodies.
6. The Parties shall encourage international cooperation in the study of legal questions of mutual interest, which may arise in the exploration and use of outer space.

ARTICLE 3 Modalities of Implementation

1. In order to pursue cooperation in programmes of common interest as referred to in Article 2 above, the Parties shall on each occasion negotiate and agree upon specific implementing arrangements.

Argentina designates the CONAE for the implementation of this Agreement and authorises CONAE to conclude the above-mentioned implementing arrangements on its behalf.

2. Each Party shall designate a "point of contact" who shall be responsible for monitoring the implementation of this Agreement and for taking measures to assist in the further development of cooperative activities. Such points of contact shall be the ordinary channel for the Parties' communication of proposals for cooperation.