

SÉNAT DE BELGIQUE

SESSION DE 2006-2007

1^{er} MARS 2007**La 8^e Conférence interparlementaire européenne de l'Espace****Bruxelles, 12 — 14 juin 2006****RAPPORT**

FAIT AU NOM DU GROUPE
DE TRAVAIL « ESPACE »
(FINANCES ET AFFAIRES
ÉCONOMIQUES)
PAR
M. ROELANTS DU VIVIER

I. INTRODUCTION

L'initiative de la Conférence interparlementaire européenne de l'Espace (CIEE) s'inscrit dans le cadre d'une association européenne de coopération dans laquelle sont représentés les organes parlementaires chargés de la problématique de l'Espace de Belgique, d'Allemagne, de France, d'Italie, d'Espagne et du

BELGISCHE SENAAAT

ZITTING 2006-2007

1 MAART 2007

De 8e Europese Interparlementaire Ruimtevaartconferentie**Brussel, 12 — 14 juni 2006****VERSLAG**

NAMENS DE WERKGROEP
« RUIMTEVAART »
(FINANCIËN EN ECONOMISCHE
AANGELEGENHEDEN)
UITGEBRACHT DOOR
DE HEER ROELANTS DU VIVIER

I. INLEIDING

Het initiatief voor de Europese Interparlementaire Ruimtevaartconferentie (EIRC) past in het kader van een Europees samenwerkingsverband waarin de parlementaire ruimtevaartgroepen van België, Duitsland, Frankrijk, Italië, Spanje en het Verenigd Koninkrijk vertegenwoordigd zijn. Opgericht in 1999, komen

Composition du groupe de travail / Samenstelling van de werkgroep :

Président / Voorzitter : François Roelants du Vivier.**Membres / Leden :**

SP.A-SPIRIT
VLD
PS
MR
CD&V
Vlaams Belang

Flor Koninckx, Ludwig Vandenhove.
Margriet Hermans, Luc Willems.
Joëlle Kapompolé, Olga Zrihen.
Jean-Marie Cheffert, François Roelants du Vivier.
Jan Steverlynck.
Frank Creyelman.

*Voir :***Documents du Sénat :****3-1785 - 2005/2006 :**

N° 1 : Rapport.

*Zie :***Stukken van de Senaat :****3-1785 - 2005/2006 :**

Nr. 1 : Verslag.

Royaume-Uni. La CIEE, qui a été créée en 1999, se réunit à intervalles réguliers et au moins une fois par an pour discuter de la politique spatiale européenne. Le Sénat de Belgique a assumé une première fois la présidence de la CIEE en 2001 et il l'assume à nouveau en 2006, au travers de son groupe de travail « Espace ».

Dans le cadre de cette présidence belge, trois événements sont organisés :

— 26 avril 2006 : colloque sur le droit de l'Espace, Sénat de Belgique, Bruxelles,

— 12 au 14 juin 2006 : 8e Conférence interparlementaire européenne de l'Espace, Sénat de Belgique, Bruxelles,

— 19 au 22 septembre 2006 : colloque concernant l'espace, la défense et la sécurité, Port spatial de l'Europe, Kourou (Guyane française).

Les délégations parlementaires des États membres de l'Union européenne et de l'ESA y sont invitées, de même que les délégations de pays non européens actifs dans le domaine spatial, comme les États-Unis, la Russie, la Chine, le Japon, l'Inde, Israël et le Brésil.

Ce rapport contient le programme, la liste des participants, les conclusions et la charte adoptée durant la conférence, de la 8e CIEE.

Des contributions et présentations des orateurs peuvent être consultées sur le site web de la 8e CIEE : <http://www.eisc-brussels2006.be>.

deze groepen op geregelde tijdstippen en minstens één keer per jaar samen om het Europees ruimtevaartbeleid te bespreken. In 2001 nam de Belgische Senaat een eerste keer het voorzitterschap van de EIRC op zich. In 2006 is de Belgische Senaat via de Werkgroep « Ruimtevaart » opnieuw voorzitter.

In het kader van dit Belgische voorzitterschap worden drie evenementen georganiseerd :

— 26 april 2006 : colloquium inzake ruimterecht, Belgische Senaat, Brussel,

— 12 tot 14 juni 2006 : 8e Europese Interparlementaire Ruimtevaartconferentie, Belgische Senaat, Brussel,

— 19 tot 22 september 2006 : colloquium aangaande ruimtevaart, veiligheid en defensie, European Space Port, Kourou (Frans-Guyana).

Bij deze gelegenheden worden parlementaire delegaties uit de lidstaten van de Europese Unie en ESA uitgenodigd, evenals delegaties uit de niet-Europese ruimtevaartlanden als de Verenigde Staten, Rusland, China, Japan, India, Israël en Brazilië.

Dit verslag bevat het programma, deelnemerslijst, de conclusies en het tijdens de conferentie aangenomen charter, van de 8e EIRC.

Bijdragen en presentaties van sprekers kunnen worden teruggevonden op de website van de 8e EIRC : <http://www.eisc-brussels2006.be>.

PROGRAMME

PROGRAMMA

Monday, 12 June 2006

8.30 — 9.00 : registration and coffee

9.00 — 12.00 : **1st Session : introduction**

(Chair : Mr François Roelants du Vivier, Chairman of the EISC)

9.00 : Welcome by Mrs Anne-Marie Lizin, Speaker of the Senate

9.10 : Welcome by Mr François Roelants du Vivier, Chairman of the European Interparliamentary Space Conference

9.20 : Contributions of the EISC permanent members

9.20 : France

9.30 : Germany

9.40 : United Kingdom

9.50 : Belgium

10.00 : Italy

10.10 : Spain

10.20 : Czech Republic

10.30 : Coffee Break

10.45 : Keynote speech by Mr Marc Verwilghen, Belgian minister for Energy, Economie, Scientific Research and Foreign Trade

11.00 : Contributions of other parliamentary delegations and debate

12.00 — 13.30 : Lunch in the Belgian Senate offered by Belgospace

13.30 — 17.30 : **2nd Session : current European space projects — Galileo & GMES**

(Chair : Mr Flor Koninckx, Belgian Senator)

13.30 : Mr Rainer Grohe, Executive Director of the Galileo Joint Undertaking, on the European institutional framework for Galileo

13.50 : Mr Patrick Bellouard, « Chargé de Mission du premier ministre de la République française », on Defense Applications of Galileo

14.10 : Mr Peter Grogard, Managing Director Septentrio Satellite Navigation, on Civil Applications of Galileo

14.30 : Debate

15.30 : Coffee Break

16.00 : Mr Volker Liebig, ESA Director for Earth Observation, on GMES and its benefits for society

16.20 : Mr Lars Prahm, Director General of EUMETSAT, on earth observation and meteorology

16.40 : Debate

17.30 : End of Day 1

19.30 : Cocktail Dinner in the Cercle Gaulois, offered by Mr François Roelants du Vivier, Chairman of the 8th EISC

Tuesday 13 June 2006

8.30 — 9.00 : Registration and Coffee

9.00 — 13.00 : **3rd Session : European Space Policy & International industrial cooperation**

(Chair : Mr Luc Willems, Belgian Senator)

9.00 : Mr Jean-Jacques Dordain, Director General ESA, on ESA's views on European space policy

9.20 : Mr Paul Weissenberg, European Commission DG for Enterprise and Industry, Director for Aerospace, Security, Defence and Equipment

9.40 : Debate

10.40 : Coffee Break

11.00 : Mr Alain Gaubert, Secretary General Eurospace, on European industrial space policy

11.20 : Mr Remo Pellichero, CEO SABCA, on the principle of «juste retour — juste contribution» and interests of smaller enterprises

11.40 : Debate

12.20 : Contribution of the Russian parliamentary delegation

12.30 : Contribution of the Chinese parliamentary delegation

12.40 : Debate

13.00 — 14.30 : Lunch in the Belgian Senate, offered by the European Space Agency

14.30 — 17.30 : **4th Session : Space Applications & Human Space Flight**

(Chair : Mrs Joëlle Kapompolé, Belgian Senator)

14.30 : Mr Pierre-Alain Schieb, OECD — OCDE, on the return of space applications for society

14.50 : Mr Giuseppe Viriglio, ESA Director for EU and industrial programmes, on the impact of space in everyday life

15.10 : Debate

16.00 : Coffee Break

16.15 : Mr Frank De Winne, ESA Astronaut, on Human Space Flight and the Klipper Programme

16.35 : Mr Ian Taylor, co-chairman of the UK Parliamentary Space Committee, on the importance of Robotics in Space

16.55 : Debate

17.30 : End of Day 2

19.30: Dinner in the Palais Egmont, offered by Mr Marc Verwilghen, Belgian Minister for Energy, Economie, Scientific Research and Foreign Trade

Wednesday 14 June 2006

8.30 — 9.00: Registration and Coffee

9.00 — 11.00: **5th Session: Space and Education**

(Chair: Mrs Margriet Hermans, Belgian Senator)

9.00: Baron Paul Buysse, Chairman of the Fonds Prince Philippe, on the project « Space and Education »

9.20: Viscount Dirk Frimout, Euro Space Society, on the importance of the interaction between Space and education

9.40: Debate

10.30 — 11.00: Coffee break

11.00 — 12.00: **Final Session: Conclusions**

(Chair: Mr François Roelants du Vivier, Chairman of the EISC)

11.00: Presentation of the Charter and the Conclusions of the EISC

11.30: Presentation of the Colloquium on Space, Defense and Security

11.45: Final remarks and farewell

12.00: End of Day 3

LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

DEELNEMERSLIJST

Name	First Name	Parliament — Company — Organisation	Country
ADAMS		Communauté germanophone	Belgium
AIRAGHI	Marco	MP — Camera dei Deputati	Italy
AN	Fenggunag	Secretary of Mr Yuanzheng Li	China
AN	Xiaoru	National People's Congress — Staff	China
BARBIERI	Stefania	ESA — Head Legal Department	France
BARBOLANI DI MONTAUTO	Giulio	ESA	Belgium
BARRO	Enrico	Vitrociset — Client Manager	Italy
BECKER	Christoph	DLR — Associate Executive Board Assistant	Germany
BEKA	Eric	Belgian High Representative for Space Policy	Belgium
BELLOUARD	Patrick	Interministerial Coordinator for the Galileo programme	France
BONTÉ	Astrid	Eutelsat — Institutional Affairs	France
BOUZITAT	Françoise	Arianespace — Financial Director	France
BRANCART	Claude	CPEONS — Enseignement officiel subventionné	Belgium
BRANDT	Guido	Vlaamse Ruimtevaart Industriële VRI	Belgium
BRANGER	Jean-Guy	MP — WEU Assembly & Sénat de France	France
BRUENING	Karl-Heinz	Forum Luft- und Raumfahrt — General manager	Germany
BUSZKE	Bartosz	Polospace	Poland
BUYSSE	Paul	Prince Philippe Fund — Chairman	Belgium
CABAL	Christian	MP — Assemblée nationale	France
CAMBIER	Pascale	Federal Science Policy Office	Belgium
CARLIER	Michèle	Ministère de la Communauté française	Belgium
CHAPPE	Alain	CNES — Representative in Brussels	Belgium
CHEFFERT	Jean-Marie	MP — Belgian Senate	Belgium
CIALENTE	Massimo	MP — Camera dei Deputati	Italy
CIPRIANO	Jacques	Safran — Vice-president European Affairs	France
COLETTA	Giancarlo	Vitrociset — Belgium Site Manager	Belgium
CORTAJARENA	Elvira	MP — WEU Assembly & Congreso de los Diputados	Spain
COUNET	Paul	European Commission — DG Industry	Belgium
CRUSIAU	Patrick	Belgian Department of Justice	Belgium
CUEVAS	Antonio	MP — Congreso de los Diputados	Spain
DE BONDT	Tim	Secretary of the 8th EISC	Belgium
de LIPKOWSKI	Emmanuel	Secretary of the French Delegation	France
de SELDING	Peter B.	journaliste — Space News	France
DE WINNE	Frank	ESA	Belgium
DEDEURWAERDER	Guillaume	SABCA — Business Development Manager	Belgium
DELVOYE	Elke	Federal Science Policy Office	Belgium
DESTEXHE	Alain	MP — Belgian Senate	Belgium
DOBES	Karl	Czechspace — Chairman of the managing board	Czech Republic
DOMINGUEZ	Carmen	Congreso de los Diputados — Staff	Spain
DORDAIN	Jean-Jacques	ESA — Director General	France
DOUBOVICK	Michel	Arianespace — Director Corporate & Institutional Affairs	France

DU PRE WERSON	Thierry	Spacebel — General Manager	Belgium
DUBRULLE	Christian	Journaliste — <i>Le Soir</i>	Belgium
DUCOUT	Pierre	MP — Assemblée nationale	France
DUESBERG	Michèle	Prince Philippe Fund	Belgium
ERGMA	Ene	Vice-President of the Estonian Parliament	Estonia
FISZLEIBER	Francis	CNES — Head of the Public Communications Department	France
FONTEYN	Dominique	Federal Science Policy Office	Belgium
FRIMOUT	Dirk	Euro Space Society — Chairman	Belgium
FUHRMANN	Bernhard	DLR — Industrial Communication	Germany
GALARDINI	Daniele	ESA — Head of the Redu Station	Belgium
GARGIR	Geneviève	CNES — European Affairs	France
GAUBERT	Alain	Eurospace — Secretary General	France
GOOSSENS	Camille	Euro Space Society — Secretary General	Belgium
GOURNAC	Alain	MP — Sénat de France	France
GRANDJEAN	Agnes	Federal Science Policy Office	Belgium
GRASEDIECK	Dieter	MP — Bundestag	Germany
GRAU	Pere	MP — Congreso de los Diputados	Spain
GRIGORIEV	Sergey	MP — State Duma	Russia
GROGNARD	Peter	Septentrio Satellite Navigation — Managing Director	Belgium
GROHE	Reiner	Galileo Joint Undertaking — Executive Director	Germany
GRUSLIN	Michel	Wallonie Espace — President	Belgium
GUEUBEL	Roland	Bruspace — administrator	Belgium
GUNNER	Tom	Secretary of the UK delegation	United Kingdom
HAIGNÉRÉ	Claudie	ESA — Cabinet of the Director General	France
HERMANS	Margriet	MP — Belgian Senate	Belgium
HOJDA	Pavel	MP — Chamber of Deputies	Czech Republic
JACOB	Christophe	ASD Eurospace — Head of the Brussels Office	Belgium
JADOT	André	Walphot — Administrator	Belgium
JEHIN	Olivier	Journaliste — Agence Europe	Belgium
JETTELOVA	Eva	Interpreter	Czech Republic
KAPOMPOLE	Joëlle	MP — Belgian Senate	Belgium
KNOCKAERT	Luth	Federal Science Policy Office	Belgium
KONINCKX	Flor	MP — Belgian Senate	Belgium
KRANZLE	Hansjörg	Forum Luft- und Raumfahrt	Germany
KREUZBERG	Karl-Heinz	ESA — Head of Cabinet of the Director General	France
KROH	Hans-Joachim	DLR	Germany
KULIKOV	Vladislav	State Duma — Staff	Russia
LACROIX	Jean-Claude	Belgospace — Director	Belgium
LAMBERT	Patricia	European Commission — Joint Research Centre	Belgium
LANCON	Brice	Safran — Director European Affairs	France
LARDIER	Christian	journaliste — Air et Cosmos	France
LEGROS	Jean-Claude	Euro Heat Pipes	Belgium
LEMAITRE	Olivier	Belgian High Representation for Space Policy	Belgium
LI	Yuanzheng	MP — Member of the Standing Committee of the NPC	China
LI	Yucui	Interpreter	China

LIEBIG	Volker	ESA — Director Earth Observation Programmes	Italy
LINTERMANS	Laurent	Council of Europe — Administrator	Belgium
LIU	Xiaohong	Chines National Space administration	China
LIZIN	Anne-Marie	Speaker — Belgian Senate	Belgium
LOMBA	Jorge	CDTI — Head of ESA programmes Department	Spain
LU	Yongjie	National People's Congress — Staff	China
LUQUISER	Diane	Top Strategies	Belgium
LUTON	Jean-Marie	Arianespace — Chairman	France
MAQUET	Gilles	EADS Space — Vice-President Institutional Relations	France
McCARTHY-FRY	Sarah	MP — House of Commons	United Kingdom
MEERT	Olivier	Galileo Joint Undertaking — Head of administration	Belgium
MENDIZABAL	Arantza	MP — Congreso de los Diputados	Spain
MENE	Antonio	Camera dei Deputati	Italy
MICHELSEN	Patrick	Bird & Bird — Legal Counsel	Belgium
MORSILLO	Giuseppe	ESA — Cabinet of the Director General	France
MOUSSINE-POUCHKINE	Elisabeth	CNES — Parliamentary Relations	France
NISTORIAN	Liviu	MP — House of Deputies	Romania
NOGUEZ	Cathy	Alcatel Alenia Space — EU Permanent Representative	Belgium
O'HARA	Edward	MP — WEU Assembly & House of Commons	United Kingdom
OLNER	Bill	MP — House of Commons	United Kingdom
PARMENTIER	Noël	BIRA — Director	Belgium
PEDREGOSA	José Manuel	WEU Assembly — Staff	France
PELLICHERO	Remo	SABCA — Director General	Belgium
PETUHOV	Valeri	MP — State Duma	Russia
PHILIPPE	Jean-Marc	KEO	France
PIRARD	Theo	Journaliste — Space Information Center	Belgium
PISANI	Pierre-Henri	ESPI — Senior Research Fellow	Austria
PRAET	Michel	ESA — Head of the Brussels Office	Belgium
PRAHM	Lars	Eumetsat — Director General	Germany
PRIJATELJ	Srecko	MP — National Assembly	Slovenia
PUSCA	Mircea	MP — House of Deputies	Romania
RAYKOV	Gennady	MP — State Duma	Russia
ROELANTS du VIVIER	François	MP — Chairman of the 8th EISC — Belgian Senate	Belgium
ROHRLICH	Paul	Embassy — Deputy Counselor for Economic Affairs	United States
RORIVE	Virginie	Assistant of Senator Kapompolé	Belgium
ROSSMANTIH	Kurt	MP — Bundestag	Germany
ROUSSEAU	Pierre	Alcatel Alenia Space ETCA	Belgium
RUDLOFF	Patrick	Arianespace	France
RUIZ NAVARRO	Jose Luis	Congreso de los Diputados — Staff	Spain
SAENEN	Bert	Department of Justice	Belgium
SAKALI	Saïda	Prince Philippe Fund	Belgium
SCHENKEL	Jacqueline	Jacqueline Schenkel Associated	United States
SCHIEB	Pierre-Alain	OECD-OCDE	France
SCHOETERS	Arthur	Euro Space Society	Belgium
SELSDON		MP — House of Lords	United Kingdom

SENECHAL	Martin	journaliste	Belgium
SHEN	Xinsun	MP — Member of the Standing Committee of the NPC	China
SHPORT	Viacheslav	MP — State Duma	Russia
SHTOGRIN	Sergey	MP — State Duma	Russia
SIERRA	Mercedes	CDTI — Director Aerospace Programmes	Spain
SIMON	Paul	IASB	Belgium
STASSART	Michel	Wallonie Espace	Belgium
STEBE	Tomas	MP — National Assembly	Slovenia
STEVERLYNCK	Jan	MP — Belgian Senate	Belgium
SUN	Zhen	Embassy	China
TALLGREN	Immi	ESA — Brussels Office	Belgium
TAYLOR	Ian	MP — House of Commons	United Kingdom
THOMAS	Jean-Marcel	Euro Space Center — Director	Belgium
TILMANS	Alexandre	Student	Belgium
TILMANS	Dominique	MP — Chamber of Representatives	Belgium
TIPRUS	Dounia	Journaliste — Agence Europe	Belgium
VAN DEN BERGHE	Wouter	Prince Philippe Fund	Belgium
VAN DEN BOSCH	Katrien	Vlaamse Ruimtevaart Industriële VRI	Belgium
VANDERHAEGHEN	Francis	VITO — Director Business & Market Strategy	Belgium
VENTSKOVSKY	Oleg	Ukraine European Representation — Director	Belgium
VER ELST	Marielle	Administration for Foreign Affairs	Belgium
VERBEELEN	Hendrik	Belgian High Representation for Space Policy	Belgium
VERWILGHEN	Marc	Belgian minister for Scientific Research	Belgium
VIRIGLIO	Guiseppe	ESA — Director EU & industrial programmes	France
WAGNER	Monique	Federal Science Policy Office	Belgium
WEISS	Mathieu	French Permanent EU Representation	Belgium
WEISSENBERG	Paul	European Commission — DG Industry	Belgium
WILLEMS	Luc	MP — Belgian Senate	Belgium
WILSON	Laura-Kate	EADS Space — European Affairs	Belgium
WISEMBERG	Jacques	IASB — B.USOC Manager	Belgium
WONTOR	Boguslaw	MP — Sejm of the Republic of Poland	Poland
ZAHRA	Bernard	EU — Committee of the Regions	Belgium
ZAITSEV	Oleg	Russian Commercial Representation in Belgium	Belgium
ZRIHEN	Olga	MP — Belgian Senate	Belgium

CONCLUSIONS DE LA 8^e CIEE — CONCLUSIES VAN DE 8^e EIRC**8th EUROPEAN INTERPARLIAMENTARY SPACE CONFERENCE****BRUSSELS, 12 — 14 JUNE 2006****FINAL CONCLUSIONS****1. General observations**

The EISC members welcome the parliament of the Czech Republic and the Russian Duma as new members, illustrating the growing importance of interparliamentary debate over the future of European Space Policy. In this respect, the European Parliament is called upon to develop strong actions in order to reinforce the European Space commitment through its Intergroup «Air and Space» and other relevant parliamentary bodies.

The EISC members emphasise that all member states of the EU or ESA can participate in the proceedings of the EISC. The new charter of the EISC gives the criteria for membership.

2. European Space Policy

The EISC members welcome the results of the ESA ministerial Council of 5 — 6 December 2005, which illustrate ESA's commitment to be the European Space Agency for the implementation of a European Space Policy.

The EISC members call upon ESA to closely study the accession of new EU member states as the Czech Republic and Hungary.

The EISC members strongly call upon the European Commission to clarify at the latest during the German Presidency of the European Union in 2007, how it plans to fill in its role in the European Space Policy.

The EISC members believe that the White Paper «Space : a new European frontier for an expanding Union» remains the basis for Europe's role in space and has to be elaborated into a coherent European Space Policy. The EU and ESA, which define and implement European space policy respectively, form the core of this role. However, these institutions should take into account the important contributions of the national space agencies and programmes.

The EISC members call upon the European Commission to define key priorities for a European Space Policy before the next European Interparliamentary Space Conference in 2007. The implementation of these priorities require the combination of all European and national space programmes into the European Space Programme. This programme needs to be reviewed on a regular basis.

The EISC members call upon the national governments and the European Council to continue to work in the spirit of the relevant articles in the Draft Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe.

The EISC members call upon the European Union to adapt its procedural rules and financial instruments regarding space in view of the uniqueness of the space sector.

The EISC members call upon the European Commission and ESA to work with the European Defence Agency to develop a common European position on security and defence issues relating to European space programmes, notably Galileo and GMES.

The EISC members stress that Galileo and GMES are the priorities of the European Space Policy, and that their financing can in no way be compromised.

3. Industrial Space Policy

The EISC members stress that the principle of «juste retour» remains a fundamental mechanism for ensuring that Europe's strong and dynamic space industrial base is shared fairly across contributing nations and promotes the interests of both large enterprises and SMEs across Europe.

The EISC members believe that a balance between this principle and the principle of «value for money» needs to be obtained.

The EISC members encourage the use of the principle of public private partnerships in the space sector, when and if viable.

4. Galileo

The EISC members confirm Galileo being the most important result of European space policy and stress the importance of holding a debate in an open and constructive way around the possible use of the Galileo programme for security and defence purposes. As a contribution to this debate, the EISC will organise a Colloquy on Space, Defence and Security in September 2006.

The EISC members state that negotiations within the framework of Galileo cannot block the putting into place of the system, nor can it lead to reductions that may lead to the collapse or failure of the system and its capabilities. Refinancing of space applications and projects may not lead to a decrease of the Galileo budget as determined in the financial perspectives 2007-2013 and the financial plan of ESA.

5. Global Monitoring for Environment and Security — GMES

The EISC members confirm that GMES will become a focal point of a European Space Policy lead by the European Union. However, GMES needs to be made known to the public and the possible end users.

Dialogue and partnership with the user community on the utilisation of GMES is of the utmost importance.

The EISC members call upon ESA and the European Commission to organise a contest for all European citizens to find a name for GMES that can appeal more to the public and that is identifiable with the purpose of the system.

The EISC members believe that an open and objective debate must be held on the possible use of GMES for security and defence purposes.

The EISC members call upon the European Commission to provide substantial financial support from the 7th Framework Programme for the GMES Space Segment Programme of ESA. However, the introduction of a «GMES Infrastructure» budget line in the Budget of the European Union is necessary, since the 7th Framework Programme is not the most appropriate funding mechanism for GMES. The European Commission is called upon to propose in close consultation with ESA and other partners that provide a significant contribution to GMES, alternatives for a suitable management structure for GMES as soon as possible.

6. Space applications

The EISC members call upon all European and national institutions to take the requests and needs of the end users of space applications into account when determining the direction of a European space policy.

The EISC members are convinced that space applications are key in transferring the benefits of space infrastructures to the European taxpayer.

7. Exploration of space

The EISC members believe that human space flight is to be taken into account for the mobilisation of society around Space. The current human space flight programmes as well as the co-operation with Russia in the development of the « Klipper » programme could be encouraged.

The EISC members believe that the European Astronaut Corps could represent a symbol for the public opinion of the European human presence in space.

The EISC members also encourage the private sector to develop its own human space flight projects.

The EISC members stress nevertheless that robotic missions remain key for the success of Europe in space. Missions to other planets and in space today are best conducted by robotic means. This however cannot prejudice the ambition of Europe in the human space flight field. A symbiosis between robotics and human space flight has to be envisaged.

The EISC members confirm the great value of the International Space Station (ISS) for European human space flight. All commitments of the international partners in ISS need to be fulfilled in full.

8. Space and education

The EISC members request all national governments to actively promote studies in science and technology, in order to resolve the lack of qualified engineers and scientists that exists today and brings the future of European space in danger. The encouragement of young people to start studies in science and engineering not only includes efforts to be made in the higher education. Mobilisation of youth around space must start by the age of 10 years. Special attention must also be given to higher education, in order to ensure the availability of first-class scientists and engineers for Europe.

The EISC members stress that the general public must be made aware of the importance of space for everyday life. A public awareness initiative is needed to promote greater understanding of the benefits of Europe's space activities.

9. Access to Space

The EISC members demand the increase in industrial and operational activities in order to certify a competitive, trustworthy and available access to Space via the European launcher family (Ariane, Soyuz, Vega).

The EISC members insist on the importance of completing the launch pads for Soyuz and Vega in the European Space Port.

The EISC members believe that the next ESA ministerial Council in 2008 is of the utmost importance for the future European launcher policy and sustainability.

The EISC members commit themselves to work towards the realisation of these conclusions through permanent consultation and to evaluate the results obtained during the next EISC annual conference in 2007.

CHARTE DE LA CIEE — CHARTER VAN DE EIRC**CHARTER OF THE EUROPEAN INTERPARLIAMENTARY SPACE CONFERENCE (EISC)**

In 1999, a European Interparliamentary Space Conference was created as a tool for interparliamentary cooperation in the space field.

Bringing together national parliamentary representatives with a particular interest in the space sector, the German, British, French, Italian, Spanish, Belgian and Czech Parliamentary Space Groups agree upon the following charter:

Art. 1. The EISC provides a forum for debating the European space policy and analyses the major issues at stake in the European space sector. It aims at facilitating the information exchange on national and European space activities and the promotion of the mutual understanding of national space policies.

Art. 2. The composition of the EISC is as follows:

— Permanent members are the national parliaments of Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom, being the founding parliaments of the EISC.

— Permanent members are national parliaments of the member states of the European Union or of the European Space Agency that have created a parliamentary body dealing with space affairs.

— The national parliament of Russia has the status of member.

— Associate members are national parliaments of European Union or European Space Agency member states, that have not created a parliamentary body dealing with space affairs.

— Observers are national parliaments of the countries that have a national space programme.

The permanent members of the EISC decide upon permanent membership, membership, associate membership and observer status, based on an official application of the national parliament concerned. This request is made to the Presidency of the EISC.

Art. 3. The EISC adopts resolutions on all matters related to the space field. These resolutions in no way bind national parliaments or prejudice their position.

However, the participating members of parliament agree to communicate the adopted resolutions to their respective national parliament and government for consideration.

Art. 4. The resolutions of the EISC are adopted unanimously by the permanent members present. Members, associate members and observers present can adhere to these resolutions, but cannot vote on the final text.

Art. 5. The EISC is chaired alternately by one of the permanent members. A presidency starts at 1 January and ends at 31 December of the same year. The permanent members decide upon which national parliament will assume the presidency for the next year.

Art. 6. The EISC meets once a year during an annual conference. At the discretion of the acting presidency, colloquia can be organised dealing with particular subjects in the space field.

A Heads of Delegation meeting, composed of the heads of delegation of the permanent members, meets at least once a year, during the annual conference. At the discretion of the acting presidency, more meetings can be organised.

Art. 7. The secretariat of the EISC Presidency is held by the acting presidency. It is responsible for the organisation of meetings, the distribution of documents and the liaison between the different national secretariats of the parliamentary space groups.

Interim provisions

Art. A. In 2006, the composition of the EISC is as follows :

— Permanent Members : national parliaments of Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Belgium, the United Kingdom and the Czech Republic;

— Members : Russian Duma;

— Associate Members : none;

— Observers : none.

Art. B. The Italian delegation will hold the presidency of the 9th EISC in 2007.

Art. C. The acting Belgian presidency will communicate the conclusions of the 8th EISC to :

— The national parliaments of the member states of the European Union or ESA, and the Russian Duma;

— The European Parliament, COSAC, NATO Parliamentary Assembly and WEU Assembly;

— The national parliaments of the United States, Brazil, India, China, Japan and Israel;

— ESA, European Commission, Council of the European Union, UN Office for Outer Space Affairs.

Art. D. The EISC can create an information desk in support of the secretariat of the EISC Presidency. The information desk will have no political role, but may help the secretariat of the EISC Presidency in the practical organisation of the conferences, if so requested. The information desk will gather information from the different actors in the space field and will distribute this information towards the national secretariats of the permanent members, members, associate members and observers. The information desk will give technical support to the secretariats of the permanent members, members, associate members and observers, if so requested. No financial or other obligations towards this information desk exist for the permanent members, members, associate members and observers of the EISC. The information desk will be located temporarily in the offices of the Belgian Senate.

Signed in Brussels on 14 June 2006,

For the Belgian delegation — acting president of the EISC,

Mr François Roelants du Vivier

For the British delegation,

Mr Bill Olnier,

Mr Ian Taylor

For the Czech delegation,

Mr Pavel Hojda

For the French delegation,

Mr Christian Cabal

For the German delegation,

Mr Kurt Rossmann

For the Italian delegation,

Mr Massimo Cialente

For the Spanish delegation,

Mr Antonio Cuevas Delgado