

IFAR – International Forum for Aviation Research

Declaration Summit 2017

23 – 25 October 2017, CSIR International Convention Centre, Pretoria, South Africa

The International Forum for Aviation Research (IFAR) is the world's only aviation research establishment network that connects government-supported agencies within the global aviation community. The purpose of IFAR is to enable the exchange of information in the field of aviation and aeronautics research, with the overall objective of identifying areas for mutually beneficial collaboration among members. In addition to its scientific and technical expertise, IFAR also promotes interactions among early career employees. IFAR held its first Summit in 2010, and was formally established by its Charter in 2011. As of 2017, IFAR has 26 member nations, representing five continents, with a total number of researchers as high as 35,000 people.

On the occasion of the 8th annual IFAR Summit, the South African **Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)** hosted 17 IFAR member organizations in Pretoria, South Africa, from 23 to 25 October 2017. The participants exchanged information on members' aviation research focus areas, discussed collaborative activities with internal and external partners, considered issues of common interests, among others.

Major outcomes of the IFAR Summit 2017 are as follows:

- As part of the «Future of IFAR» discussions, members exchanged ideas on the ways to ensure vibrant and sustainable development of the organization and its activities. The members agreed to focus on strengthening its core activities being:
 - Information exchange and networking among the principals @ IFAR Summits
 - Information exchange & discussion on technical issues to enable bilateral/multilateral international collaboration
 - Supporting & promoting Early Career Network (ECN)
 - External partnership
- To this end, members noted the importance of IFAR to offer its unique values to the members, as well as the benefit of their own proactive engagement in initiatives of their interests.
- Furthermore, certain changes to the IFAR management structure were proposed and endorsed by the Summit. Namely, German Aerospace Center (DLR) will be a member of the IFAR Leadership Team as the founding institution with indefinite term, joining the Chair, Vice Chair, Past Chair, and IFAR Founder.
- At the Summit 2017, a biannual rotation in the IFAR Leadership Team (LT) took place. The Chair of IFAR, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), represented by Dr. Fumikazu Itoh, handed over its position at the conclusion of the Summit to assume the

position of Past Chair. Mr. Michel Peters of Netherlands Aerospace Centre (NLR) assumed the position of IFAR Chair for the next two years. Central AeroHydrodynamic Institute (TsAGI)'s Prof. Sergey Chernyshev was unanimously elected to serve as the new IFAR Vice-Chair.

- The Summit acknowledged the outstanding contributions made by NASA, led by Dr. Jaiwon Shin, serving on the LT for the past 6 years as Vice Chair, Chair, and the Past Chair. The Summit also greatly appreciated the excellent leadership of JAXA as the past IFAR Chair, who strongly led the efforts to lay the foundations for IFAR's sustainable operation and enhanced member activism.
- The principals from NLR, TsAGI, JAXA and DLR signed a letter regarding the future sustainability of IFAR. This letter outlines the contributions foreseen of each letter signatory from the Summit 2017 to the end of 2019 time period.
- The main technical theme of the Summit revolved around «Supersonic Noise Characterization and Measurement» in support of the development of the next-generation supersonic civil aircraft. NASA, VKI, TsAGI, JAXA, ONERA, INCAS, NRC, DLR and FOI presented their research activities regarding this topic.
- Emphasizing the importance of information exchange and the facilitation of collaborative opportunities among members, several organizations presented proposals for technical collaboration on topics related to composite materials and structures, weather safety, supersonic noise, airborne sensing and monitoring, as well as BRICS STI Framework Programme.
- An IFAR Principals-only Session was organized for the second time following last year's 7th IFAR Summit in Daejeon, South Korea, covering three topics:
 - Topic 1: «Human resources development - empowering early career employees»
 - Topic 2: «Finding New Research Seeds/Ideas Within and Outside of Aeronautics»
 - Topic 3: «How to attract new talents to public aeronautics research institutions as opposed to industry»The leaders of IFAR member organizations utilized this opportunity to engage in open and in-depth discussions regarding issues of common interests.
- On the margins of the IFAR Summit, CSIR organized a Panel discussion with some 150 representatives of the South African Aerospace Community under the theme of «Empowering Aerospace Growth in Africa». IFAR leaders from NASA, DLR, ONERA, CAE and TsAGI each gave a 15 minutes overview of their country's development path in aerospace and identified opportunities and enablers for growth in aerospace on the African continent.
- The Summit also included an exciting visit to some of CSIR's research facilities as well as a tour of South African aerospace organizations such as Denel Aerostructures, AEROSUD, and SANSA Space Operations.

- Several IFAR leaders also were invited to be the plenary speakers at the Annual Conference of the Aeronautical Society of South Africa (AeSSA) and the Africa Aviation Innovation Summit (Avi Afrique) which was held alongside the IFAR Summit.
- The Summit endorsed TsAGI as the host of the IFAR Summit 2018 in Moscow, while welcoming NLR as the IFAR Summit 2019 host in the Netherlands. This is to recognize the upcoming 100th anniversaries of these two prominent research institutions. The Summit also endorsed NRC as the host of IFAR Summit 2020 in Montreal.

More information on the IFAR Summit 2017 in Pretoria as well as further information on IFAR is available at <http://www.ifar.aero> .

IFAR member organizations presented at the IFAR Summit 2017

1. Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME), Hungary
2. Central AeroHydrodynamic Institute (TsAGI), Russia
3. Italian Aerospace Research Centre (CIRA), Italy
4. Chinese Aeronautical Establishment (CAE), China
5. Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO), Australia
6. Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), South Africa
7. Czech-Aeronautical Research and Test Institute (VZLU), Czech Republic
8. French Aerospace Lab (ONERA), France
9. German Aerospace Center (DLR), Germany
10. Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), Japan
11. Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI), Korea
12. Netherlands Aerospace Centre(NLR), Netherlands
13. National Institute of Aerospace Research “Elie Carafoli” (INCAS), Romania
14. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), USA
15. National Research Council (NRC), Canada
16. Swedish Defense Research Agency (FOI), Sweden
17. Vienna University of Technology (TU Wien), Austria