

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 20, 2025

Historic Space Conference to Unite African & Middle Eastern Space Sectors with Worldwide Vision and Expertise in Morocco

RABAT — In a move set to reshape regional space collaboration, Morocco will host the first-ever Africa Middle East Space Conference (AMESC 2025) this February, bringing together the emerging space players with established global powers.

The four-day conference, which will take place in Rabat, Morocco at UM6P Congress Center from February 5–8, is the result of an unprecedented collaboration amongst Morocco's top academic institutions. Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (UM6P) will hold the conference in its premier convention facility, which is organized by the Moroccan Initiative for Space Industry (MISI). The Aerospace Moroccan Cluster (AMC) and the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO) provide crucial support, alongside the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Morocco and the U.S. Embassy in Morocco.

"The space sector thrives on collaboration across borders, and AMESC 2025 embodies this spirit," says Naoufal Souitat, MISI Founder. "By bringing together global space leaders with the bright minds from Africa and the Middle East, we're fostering partnerships that will advance space exploration and innovation. Our regions bring valuable perspectives to the global space dialogue - from managing Earth's resources to developing new applications of space technology. Through AMESC, we're creating meaningful collaborations where international expertise combines with regional innovation to address global challenges. Together, we're not just expanding space activities; we're developing solutions that benefit humanity both in space and on earth."

Leading space agencies from across the world, such as NASA, ESA, Portuguese Space Agency and the Italian Space Agency (ASI), as well as key regional participants, like the Egyptian Space Agency (EgSA), Azercosmos, and the Kenya Space Agency, have committed to the conference. The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) will offer its crucial viewpoint on global space policy and collaboration. Prominent research organizations, such as Arizona State University's MILO Institute and Abu Dhabi's Technology Innovation Institute (TII), will provide state-of-the-art research viewpoints to the debates, enhancing the conference's scientific dimension. The participation of the Latin American Space Industry Cluster (CLIE) and the Brazilian Space Agency, along with delegations from China and South Korea, will guarantee a strong Latin American presence. This highlights the event's truly global reach and its role in promoting South-South cooperation in space activities. Leading companies in the field, such as iSpace, will present their most recent developments, emphasizing the dynamic nexus of institutional knowledge, commercial space development, and academic research.

Adding to the conference's distinguished delegations, former NASA astronaut Dorothy Metcalf-Lindenburger will share her unique insights from her experiences aboard the International Space Station. Her participation underscores AMESC's commitment to inspiring the next generation of space explorers from Africa and the Middle East.

The conference program tackles pressing sector challenges through specialized tracks:

- Space Policy, Partnerships and Regional collaboration frameworks
- Space finance and investment strategies
- Earth observation for climate action
- Space medicine breakthroughs
- Education and workforce development

MISI, UM6P, ICESCO and AMC warmly invite industry experts, academics, students and the public to participate in AMESC 2025. Join us as we explore together the infinite opportunities that space offers for sustainable and inclusive development in Africa, the Middle East and beyond. *For registration and program details:* www.amesc.org

Media Contact: Mr. Benouda j.benouda@amesc.org | Whatsapp: +46 76 786 46 70

About the Organizers:

MISI drives Morocco's space sector development through international collaboration and innovative projects. Established in 2021, it has rapidly become a key facilitator for space initiatives in the region.

UM6P, Morocco's leading research university, hosts 7,200+ students and 990+ PhD researchers across cutting-edge facilities focused on tomorrow's challenges.

ICESCO advances scientific collaboration across its 53 member states, with a proven track record in space education initiatives.

AMC represents Morocco's thriving aerospace sector, encompassing 227 member companies and supporting 43 space/aerospace startups.