

**For Immediate Release...**

**Media Lario S.r.l. Announces the appointment of Dr. José Achache to the position of Director and Chairman of the Board**

Milan, Italy, November 14, 2016 – Media Lario S.r.l., a world leader in advanced optical components and systems for space missions, satellite imaging systems and large terrestrial telescopes, announced today that it appointed Dr. José Achache as Director and Chairman of the Board of Media Lario S.r.l.

Dr. Achache is Managing Director of AP-Swiss, a programme of the European Space Agency (ESA) in Switzerland, which fosters commercial applications of space infrastructure. He is the co-founder of Groupe Plani, a Paris-based company providing end-to-end equipment and services for video and TV productions. He is also an investor and Board member in companies in the space, biotech and food domains. Prior to that, José was successively Professor of Geophysics at Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris, Vice-President for Research and Development at BRGM, the French geological survey, Deputy Director General of CNES, the French space agency, Director of Earth Observation Programmes at ESA, and Secretary General of GEO, the Intergovernmental Organization on Earth observation satellites, in Geneva.

Dr. Achache has been the initiator of several space missions at CNES and ESA and the architect of COPERNICUS, the multi-billion EU programme for Environment and Security, and its "Sentinels" series of satellites, now the largest provider of Earth observation data in the world. He is the author of *Les Sentinelles de la Terre*, an essay on Space and its applications to environmental policy, resources and infrastructures management and security. He published 70 reviewed papers in scientific journals, and numerous articles on space an environment.

Jeff Lyons, CEO of Media Lario said, "We really couldn't be more pleased that Dr. Achache has agreed to join our team at Media Lario and help guide our continued growth in the space industry. That someone of his calibre would join us as chairman speaks volumes to the hard work of the company over 24 years and the reputation this company has earned in that time. We are very much looking forward to continued growth and further success under his guidance and leadership."

Dr. José Achache also commented, "I have dedicated most of my career to Earth observation and I see a bright future there for smart optical systems carried by smaller satellites. On top of that, we are about to witness fantastic developments in optical and quantum communication systems on satellites. Media Lario's unique technology and expertise is marvellously suited to these opportunities. I am thrilled to be joining Media Lario at this exciting time."

Media Lario S.r.l.  
Località Pascolo  
23482 Bosisio Parini (LC) Italy  
+39 031 867 111



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