



## MEDIA ADVISORY

# Global Launch of International Polar Year (IPY) 2007-2008

Place: Palais de la Découverte, Paris, France, 1 March 2007

Programme: 11:00 am: Opening ceremony; 11:30 Press conference; 12:00 Buffet lunch

Speakers:

- Prof Thomas Rosswall, Executive Director, International Council for Science (ICSU)
- Mr Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- Dr David Carlson, Director, IPY Programme Office
- Dr Ian Allison, Co-chair, IPY Joint Committee
- Dr Michel Beland, Co-chair, IPY Joint Committee

Official invitations to this event will be sent to the media on 13 February.

The launch of IPY 2007-2008 marks the onset of one of the most ambitious coordinated international science programmes ever attempted. Over 170 scientific projects involving thousands of scientists, from over 60 countries and a wide range of research disciplines, will set out to discover more about the polar regions and their critical influence on the rest of the planet. The IPY campaign also aims to educate and involve the public while helping to train the next generation of engineers, scientists, and leaders.

In addition to the main presenters, some of the key scientists, from across the world, who will be leading IPY projects will be present at the Opening Ceremony, providing a unique opportunity to interact directly.

IPY is co-sponsored by WMO and the International Council for Science (ICSU).

Many national IPY launch events will also be taking place at various venues, on and around 1 March. For a full listing: <http://www.ipy.org/index.php?/ipy/detail/launch/>

### For further information:

IPY website: <http://www.ipy.org>

International press officers:

Mark Oliver. Tel: +41 (0)22 730 84 17, E-mail: [moliver@wmo.int](mailto:moliver@wmo.int)

Carine Richard-Van Maele. Tel: +41 (0)22 730 83 15. E-mail: [cpa@wmo.int](mailto:cpa@wmo.int)

Frederica Kostadinoff. Tel: +33 (0)1 45 25 53 21, E-mail: [frederica@icsu.org](mailto:frederica@icsu.org)

National press contacts: [http://216.70.123.96/images/uploads/Press\\_officers\\_for\\_IPY\\_launch.pdf](http://216.70.123.96/images/uploads/Press_officers_for_IPY_launch.pdf)

National and regional IPY committees: <http://www.ipy.org/index.php?/ipy/national/>

IPY projects: <http://www.ipy.org/index.php?ipy/content/projects>