



Presentation of Keynote Speaker

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Biography:

Jérôme Béquignon, 50, started his career as geophysicist at the Euro-Mediterranean seismological centre. He joined the European Space Agency (ESA) in 1991 and has specialised in space technology applications to disaster management.

From 2002 to 2007 he was seconded to the Directorate of Civil Protection, French Ministry of Interior as Advisor on space and new technologies to the Director. He steered several projects for the European Commission on civil protection matters.

He has been Executive Secretary of the International Charter “Space and Major Disasters” from 2000 to 2007. This international agreement aims at providing satellite imagery to emergency managers during major incidents.

He is now Senior Coordinator at the Brussels office of ESA, he liaises with the European Institutions on major programmes such as Galileo and GMES. He is a regular lecturer on space technology for emergency management at various academic institutions.