



esac

European Space Astronomy Centre
Camino bajo del Castillo, s/n
28692 Villanueva de la Cañada
Madrid
Spain
T +34 91 8131 100
F +34 91 8131 139
www.esa.int

**SPC, SSAC, Working Groups,
Scientific Community**

Our ref. ESA-DSCI-ake-LE-2019-007

Madrid, 19/03/2019

Subject: Announcement of Opportunity for the CHEOPS Guest Observers Programme

Dear Colleague,

I have the pleasure of inviting you to respond to the first Announcement of Opportunity to submit proposals for Guest Observers' Programme observations to be performed by the Characterising ExOPlanet Satellite (CHEOPS).

CHEOPS is an s-(small) class ESA mission implemented in partnership with Switzerland, with important contributions from 10 other ESA member states. It is the first mission dedicated to the search for exo-planetary transits by means of ultrahigh precision photometry on bright stars already known to host planets. The mission will be launched from Kourou in the timeframe of 15 October and 14 November 2019.

This announcement solicits proposals to be performed in the first year of nominal operations, with a reference start date of 1 February 2020 and running to 31 January 2021. All proposals will be subject to peer review by the CHEOPS Time Allocation Committee. 20% of the available observing time will be allocated to proposals received in response to this announcement. Proposers from institutes located worldwide are welcome to participate.

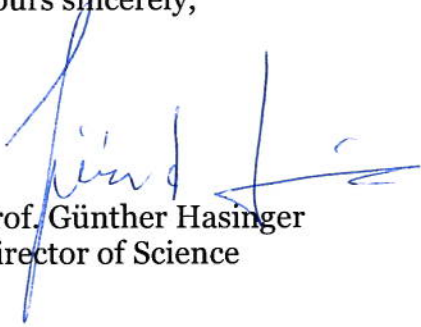
Proposals shall be submitted electronically to ESA by 14:00 CEST (GMT+2) on 16 May 2019. It is expected that proposers will be informed of the selection outcome by the end of July 2019. The detailed schedule of milestones for this announcement, together with the software tools and documentation needed to prepare proposals are available from:

<https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/cheops-guest-observers-programme/ao-1>

I should appreciate it if you would distribute this invitation to interested colleagues.

I wish you success with your CHEOPS observing proposals.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Günther Hasinger", written over a vertical line that extends from the "Yours sincerely," text.

Prof. Günther Hasinger
Director of Science

Cc: K. Isaak, ESA CHEOPS Project Scientist
A. Parmar, Head of the Science Support Office