

Dear A1 commission member

April 6<sup>th</sup>,2020

I deeply hope that with respect to the exceptional events related to Covid-19 you and your families and friends are doing well.

Following are two announcements concerning our commission :

1. **URGENT** : Call for contribution to IAU commission A1 triennial report (2018-2021), *deadline on April 15<sup>th</sup>*.
2. Gaia status in the Covid-19 epidemic context

Best Regards,

Jean Souchay

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### **1.Call for contribution to IAU commission A1 triennial report (2018-2021)**

***April 15<sup>th</sup> is the strict deadline*** I have to send to the IAU secretary the triennial report of the A1 commission for the period 2018-2021. This report is extremely valuable in informing about the activities of the commission and of the Union itself, as well as in preparation of the General Assembly at Busan, next year.

In this context ***I invite any member of the A1 commission to send a report before April 13<sup>th</sup>***. of his activities for the period 2018-2021, whatever be the length of the contribution - it could be a few words, several lines or more. The aim is to mention what might be forgotten by the members of the organizing committee in charge of the triennial report (i.e. a project, a mission, a significant paper about astrometry etc...). If possible and applicable, please coordinate with your colleagues in the same institute / country / project to send me a joint contribution.

Material must be sent to : [Jean.Souchay@obspm.fr](mailto:Jean.Souchay@obspm.fr) by April 13.

### **2.Gaia status in the Covid-19 epidemic context**

As in all the fields of the society, the worldwide spread of the Coronavirus has a considerable influence on the scientific world ... and also in the control and organization of present space missions. This is obviously the case of Gaia.

ESOC is now operating with a minimum of staff on site and the Gaia flight control team have taken corresponding measures. In particular, the spacecraft operations have been automated as much as possible and the period for which commands are uploaded to the spacecraft ahead of time has been extended to four weeks. Otherwise operations essentially proceed as normal and Gaia continues to collect data without problems. The daily DPAC systems to handle the newly received data are also running without issues.

[ Transmitted by A. Brown ]