



Kiruna 2022-08-26

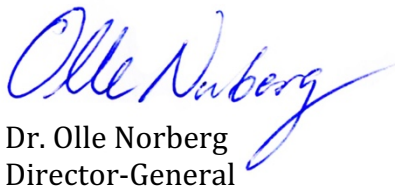
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Institute of Space and Astronautical Science (ISAS),  
Japan Aerospace Exporation Agency (JAXA),  
Sagamihara, Japan

### **Support letter for the participation of IRF in the FACTORS mission**

Scientists from the Swedish Institute of Space Physics (IRF) participate in the FACTORS mission proposal lead by Prof. M. Hirahara submitted in response to the ISAS JFY2022 Announcement of Opportunity. The goal of the mission is to study magnetosphere-ionosphere-thermosphere coupling using two formation-flying spacecraft equipped with a plasma package and an optical imager on each spacecraft.

IRF is interested in providing a hardware contribution to the science payload, in particular in contributing to the Electric field and Plasma Wave Investigation (EPWI). Such a contribution has been discussed with Prof. H. Kojima who is leading the investigation, it will be a continuation of the recent successful collaborations on the BepiColombo and JUICE missions. IRF is also interested in contributing to the mission through conjugate ground-based observations using the unique instrumentation available at IRF.

With this letter, IRF express its support for the FACTORS proposal. The mission is of high scientific value and fits well into the research strategy of IRF. IRF scientists plan to take an active part in the science exploitation phase. IRF participation in the mission will further develop Swedish-Japanese collaboration in space research. If the mission is selected, IRF will make our best effort to provide the above mentioned contribution and to make this collaboration successful.



Dr. Olle Norberg  
Director-General