



Open Call: Become the Host Organisation for the Asteroids2029 Secretariat

— Opening an international call to support global coordination of the International Year of Asteroid Awareness and Planetary Defence

Luxembourg, 15 July 2026 — Following the recent launch of Asteroids2029 — the global peer-led initiative amplifying the scope and reach of the UN-declared International Year of Asteroid Awareness and Planetary Defence — organisations globally are invited to submit their applications to host the Asteroids2029 Secretariat.

The Asteroids2029 Secretariat will serve as the central operational hub of Asteroids2029, coordinating activities across a global network of partners, including space agencies, scientific institutions, educators, communicators, and national and regional initiatives.

The open call represents a key milestone in building the infrastructure required to deliver a coherent and impactful international programme leading up to and through 2029. The Asteroids2029 Secretariat will be responsible for putting the initiative's vision into action by:

- Coordinating global activities and campaigns, aiding National Nodes to carry out regional events,
- Supporting international collaboration across participating organisations,
- Leading communication and public engagement efforts,
- Managing projects, partnerships, and events,
- Supporting fundraising and resource allocation,
- Leading monitoring, evaluation, and reporting.

Working under the guidance of the Asteroids2029 Steering Committee, the Secretariat will ensure that activities are implemented in alignment with the goals of Asteroids2029: asteroid awareness, planetary defence, and international collaboration.

Organisations from all countries are invited to submit proposals to host the Secretariat. Eligible organisations include, but are not limited to:

- Scientific and research institutions,
- Space agencies and observatories,
- Science communication and public engagement organisations,

- Non-profit and international organisations with relevant expertise.

“Asteroids2029 is a truly global initiative, and we are seeking a host organisation that can coordinate hundreds of partners and participants from around the world to deliver it,” said Alex Karl, Chair of the Interim Steering Committee. “The Secretariat will play a central role in uniting people from every corner of the world to learn about asteroid impacts, while ensuring everyone has equal access to resources and speakers to host events, no matter the language, country or part of the world.”

The selected organisation will provide the institutional and operational framework required to support the Secretariat, including staffing, administrative capacity, communication infrastructure, and financial management.

The Asteroids2029 Secretariat will be enabled through a collaborative funding model, bringing together in-kind support from the Host Organisation with financial contributions from international partners, sponsors, and donors. Additional organisations may also contribute in-kind services and expertise to support the Secretariat’s work. This approach allows the initiative to leverage global capabilities and resources, ensuring that the Secretariat operates efficiently while maximizing global impact through shared investment in a worldwide effort.

The Secretariat will work closely with:

- National Nodes, coordinating activities at country level,
- Organisational Nodes, supporting activities on a global level
- Working Groups and Cornerstone Projects,
- Sponsors, Partners and Media.

Together, these entities will form a distributed global network, delivering activities ranging from public engagement and education to international collaboration and scientific outreach.

The Secretariat is expected to operate from approximately 2026 through 2030, covering:

- Preparatory phase (2026–2027)
- Global implementation phase (2028–2029)
- Evaluation and legacy phase (2030)

Interested organisations are invited to submit an application outlining :

- Institutional capacity and experience
- Proposed approach to hosting the Secretariat
- Operational and financial capabilities and requirements
- Staffing plan and already available resources

Full details on submission requirements and timelines are available at: asteroids2029.org

About Asteroids2029

The United Nations General Assembly declared 2029 the International Year of Asteroid Awareness and Planetary Defence to take advantage of the close approach of asteroid Apophis. Asteroids2029 is a global peer-led initiative to amplify the scope and reach of the UN-declared International Year. Asteroids2029 is composed of experts from, and supported by, a broad network of organizations spanning aerospace, science and education, bringing together institutions, scientists, educators, communicators, and citizens to promote asteroid awareness, planetary defence and international

collaboration in safeguarding our shared planet.

Contacts

Alex Karl, Chair of the Interim Steering Committee

asteroids2029@pm.me

Lars Lindberg Christensen, Interim Steering Committee member

lars.christensen@noirlab.edu