

Dr Jean-François MINSTER



Born in 1950, Dr Jean-François Minster is a graduate from the "Ecole Polytechnique". He holds a doctorate in geochemistry from "Institut de Physique du Globe" (IPG, Paris), and was a post-doctoral fellow in MIT USA. He developed research on ocean sciences in Paris from 1981 to 1985 and in Toulouse from 1985 to 1996 (as Director of a 60-person laboratory and of a 130-person Institute). He was Directeur de l'Institut National des Sciences de l'Univers (INSU) of CNRS and Universities from 1996 to 2000 (Director of 7000-persons) and was subsequently Chairman and Executive Director of Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer (Ifremer), with a staff of 2000. He was charged with developing science strategy and policy at CNRS in 2005. Since October 2006, he is Senior Vice President Scientific Development at Total S.A. With 83 refereed publications, 3 books and more than 70 general audience publications, his research activities have involved supervision of 22 Phd theses, co-ordinating several national programs and European Commission projects.

Dr Minster is a corresponding member of l'Académie des Sciences since 1997 and a member of l'Académie des Technologies. He has been the French national representative on several international committees, including GMES, GEOSS. He has been Chair of the ESF Marine Board from 2002 to 2006. He acted as scientific advisor in marine science in a number of European regional, national and international institutions and organizations and has been a member of the European Advisory Board (Eurab).

Jean-Francois Minster has been awarded many distinctions and medals, including Academia Europea member since 1988, Médaille d'Argent du CNRS, 1993, Chevalier dans l'Ordre National du Mérite, 1995, William T. Pecora Prize (NASA) for Topex-Poséidon, 1998 and Légion d'Honneur, April 2003.

