

PRINCESS ELISABETH STATION CELEBRATIONS



The inauguration of the [Princess Elisabeth Station](#) on February 15th was a success and a dream come true. In the opening ceremony preceding the official inauguration, Alain Hubert reminded everyone that the International Polar Year had been the drive for Belgium's initiative to return to Antarctica in the name of science.

Sabine Laruelle, Minister of the Belgian Science Policy Office, expressed how proud she was of being present in Antarctica for the inauguration of the station, while Pieter De Crem, Belgian Minister of Defence, took the opportunity to go over the pioneering role Belgium has had in Antarctica throughout history.

Because the weather conditions were so favourable upon their arrival, the official inauguration of the station took place at 1 pm (central European time). The inauguration was followed by a tour of the station and of its facilities and was followed by a delicious dinner prepared by the Antarctic continent's most renowned chefs