Methane has been detected in the Martian atmosphere both by ground-based telescopes and from space. This discovery indicates that the planet is either biologically or geologically active. The goal of the workshop is to review the available measurements, the potential reservoirs and release mechanisms of Methane and its circulation in the atmosphere, and to discuss the origin and sources of this constituent.

We anticipate discussions on the following topics:

• Space observations of methane
• Ground-based observations of methane
• Martian atmosphere, surface and subsurface data relevant to the study of methane
• Origin, source, and loss of methane
• Atmospheric circulation and chemistry
• Mechanisms for storage and release
• Microbial life and metabolism in water ice
• Biological experiments under Martian conditions
• Future measurements of methane, its dissociation products, and related trace gases

The workshop will consist of invited and contributed talks as well as posters.
Ample time will be allowed for discussions.

Web page: http://www.congrex.nl/09c26/

Abstract submission. A template is available on the web page. Deadline: 1st September 2009

Deadline for European student support: 1st September 2009.

Follow the link:http://www.esa.int/SPECIALS/Education/SEMKIDMVGJE_0.html , and also submit an abstract via the conference web page.

Conference fees: 100 Euros. The fee includes bus transport from hotels, a conference bag, refreshments during sessions and social programme (welcome drink, social evening) and an abstract booklet.