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Status of the GRACE Follow-On Mission

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In this presentation we will present the latest status of the GRACE Follow-On Mission, planned by NASA and GFZ for launch in 2016 to continue the outstanding global mass flux measurements critical for understanding large scale climate trends. At the time of this abstract submission in early calendar 2011, although we await final budgetary approval by the US Congress and the appropriate German ministries, we continue significant Pre-Phase A work developing the project plan and technical baseline, and we anticipate the Mission Concept Review and transition to project Phase A around April, 2011, roughly the time of the EGU. In the talk, we will provide the most up to date technical specifications and performance statistics, along with the project programmatic status on both sides of the Atlantic.