

Proposal for Forming an IAA Study Group

Title of Study: Protecting the Environment of Celestial Bodies – PECB

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Primary IAA Commission Preference: Commission 5
Secondary IAA Commission Interests: Commission 2

Members of Study Team

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Short Description of Scope of Study

Overall Goal:

In the context of increased exploration activities within the Solar System, the study will analyse the effects and threats which those activities pose to celestial bodies and will propose overall guidelines and possible means of regulation for future activities. The Study will be carried out in six steps:

1. Definition of the key questions related to the protection of the environment of celestial bodies.
2. Taking stock of the impact that activities of exploration, scientific research and exploitation generally may have.
3. Identifying fields of influence (such as biology, chemistry, nuclear contamination, space debris, economic exploitation et al.) and evaluating their possible impact respectively.
4. Evaluating the influence on celestial bodies in an interdisciplinary approach, also taking into account legal, political, and economical aspects.
5. Providing proposals for rules of procedure for future activities

6. Providing recommendations for possible regulatory measures.

Intermediate Goals:

The contents of the Study will be developed in subsequent steps, which build upon each other. Therefore, the Intermediate Goals consist of the first three Overall Goals:

1. Definition of the key questions related to the protection of the environment of celestial bodies.
2. Taking stock of the impact that activities of exploration, scientific research and exploitation generally may have.
3. Identifying fields of influence (such as biology, chemistry, nuclear contamination, space debris, economic exploitation et al.) and evaluating their possible impact respectively.

Methodology:

The study will be carried out in an interdisciplinary manner. Therefore it will relate to the works of COSPAR as well as other bodies and institutions such as ECSS, UN COPUOS et al.

Time Line:

October 2007 to December 2009

The Study Group intends to make use of the IAF Congresses for its work:

- IAC 2008: Discussion of the first draft
- IAC 2009: Discussion of the final draft

Final Product (Report, Publication, etc.):

Report of about 100 pages, including analysis, proposal of guidelines and possible regulatory measures.

Target Community:

- Scientific community
- Community of the intergovernmental process for the development of a 'Framework for Global Space Exploration'
- all other interested stakeholders

Support Needed:

--- tbd ---

Potential Sponsors:

- DLR (German Aerospace Center) (tbc)
- ESPI (European Space Policy Institute) (tbc)
- COSPAR (tbc)
- others tbd

To be returned to IAA Secretariat Paris fax: 33 1 47 23 82 16 email: sgeneral@iaaweb.org

Date:

Signature:

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Study Group Form (comments and form available on <http://iaaweb.org/iaa/Scientific%20Activity/Form%20SG.doc>)