

INTERNATIONAL SPACE EXPLORATION FORUM

Terms of Reference

(3 March 2018)

[Background]

The first meeting of a High-level International Space Exploration Platform was held in Lucca, Italy, on 10 November 2011 following the two ministerial level conferences on space exploration which were respectively hosted by European countries.

Representatives from around the world met in Lucca and committed to begin an open structured high-level policy dialogue on space exploration at the government-level. The United States hosted the next dialogue, the International Space Exploration Forum (ISEF), in Washington, DC, on 9 January 2014.

Participants of the Forum at the above meetings confirmed the importance of international cooperation and collaboration to further advance space exploration and the utilization of space for the benefit of humankind. Participants also confirmed the importance of policy-level commitment for realization and sustainable implementation of international endeavors in space exploration.

This spirit was taken over in the 2nd ISEF (ISEF2) in Tokyo on 3 March 2018, and the participants recognized the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the ISEF to establish the basic parameters related to its function in order to make the forum a continuous international effort.

[Scope and Purpose]

The purpose of the ISEF will be to enrich understanding of importance of space exploration for the benefit of humankind and to further advance the international cooperation and collaboration on space exploration through non-binding, high-level policy dialogue.

[Operation]

- Host country will be responsible for the general ISEF arrangement and associated expenses.
- Host country and participating countries do not exchange any funds.

[Participation]

- Participation in the ISEF is open to governments and international/inter-governmental organizations interested in space exploration and ascribing to the document entitled Principles for International Space Exploration.
- The host country may arrange for a meeting or conference to be held in concert with the ISEF to include representatives of universities, research institutes, companies and others.

[Opportunity for Inter-Sessional Work]

- ISEF host countries will determine how best to plan and organize future ISEF meetings, including the potential for inter-sessional consultations.

[Revisions]

- These Terms of Reference may be revised by the ISEF participating countries and international/inter-governmental organizations, by consensus.

[Effectivity]

- These Terms of Reference became effective in being consented by those participating countries and international/inter-governmental organizations on 3 March, 2018, at the time of the 2nd ISEF in Tokyo, Japan.