



Public Hearing of the President's Commission  
on Implementation of United States Space Exploration Policy  
for Moon, Mars and Beyond

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1. President Bush's announced "Vision for Space Exploration", to return to the Moon in preparation for the exploration of Mars and beyond, is very attractive and challenging. We express our respects for the frontier spirit of the United States.
2. JAXA is also currently conducting projects for unmanned lunar exploration, and we are very much interested in how U.S. Vision will be evolved to a plan.
3. Space is a common heritage of mankind and is also international in nature. JAXA has had numerous cooperation projects with the United States in the fields of space science, Earth observation and space environment utilization with many beneficial results.



4. Among these, the International Space Station program is a completely new type of international cooperation in terms of content and scale. Due to the enormous scale and complexity of the ISS program, as well as its extensive duration, many difficulties have occurred such as the numerous program changes. The international partners have worked hard to overcome these problems with mutual understanding and cooperation.

However through its participation, JAXA has accumulated precious experience in areas such as execution of international cooperation projects and manned space technology including the flights of Japanese astronauts.

The ISS partners must continue to cooperate together so that the ISS can be completed and operated definitely in a mutually acceptable way, thereby gaining many valuable results. The experience of success would be important and essential for promoting a new international project.



5. JAXA is interested in how the U.S. Vision will be evolved to a plan. The plan that fundamentally matches with Japan's space policy would have possibilities for cooperation. We would like to see the detailed plan to be developed and consider in which areas we could potentially cooperate. For that purpose, we believe that information exchange on specific plans is important.