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Contribution of Space Activities to Solving Global Societal Issues (2)

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CONTINUING PROGRESS TOWARD THE MOON VILLAGE

Abstract

The global movement toward the exploration, utilization and extension of human presence to the Moon has gained momentum during the past twelve months. The concept of a “Moon Village” (MV) is one that encompasses the full breadth of activities that may be pursued vis-à-vis the Moon during this century – comprising landers and orbiters in the near-term, human and robotic exploration missions in the mid-term, and ambitious government and commercial operations and eventual human settlements in the far-term. During the past several years, important progress has been made to advance the vision of a Moon Village by a new non-governmental organization (NGO), the Moon Village Association (MVA). Working in concert with a variety of existing government and non-government organizations, this progress has centered around identifying, organizing broad-based international teams and beginning to undertake a variety of critical activities. These MVA efforts included conventional topics such as identifying potential lunar missions and markets, examining options for Moon Village architectures (including high-level interface standards). However, the MVA has also considered cultural issues, cooperation and cooperation among diverse players, formulation of concepts for lunar analogues (both on Earth for the Moon, and on the Moon for missions beyond). The Moon Village Association is also focusing its efforts towards supporting the goal of the UN Agenda 2030 and the benefits for humankind in settling on the Moon. Initiatives like “Women on the Moon” aiming to foster a better gender balanced activities on the Moon related projects will be also described. This paper will review the core concepts that define the Moon Village, summarize recent progress globally in general, and by the MVA in particular as well as its contribution to solving global societal issues. . In concludes with a notional international MV roadmap and a plan of action going forward.