

IAF SPACE EXPLORATION SYMPOSIUM (A3)
Moon Exploration – Part 1 (2A)

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PROGRESS OF CHINA LUNAR EXPLORATION PROGRAM AND PROSPECTS FOR
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Abstract

Exploration of the unknown world is the eternal power to promote the development of mankind. In 2004, China started her unmanned deep space missions with CLEP(China's Lunar Exploration Project). After 17 years, five lunar missions from Chang'E 1 (CE-1) to Chang'E 5(CE-5) have been successfully finished, and now the future development of lunar mission is studied in so-called CLEP Fourth Step. In this presentation, the missions under study for CLEP follow-on(CE-6, CE-7 and CE-8) are introduced with their mission objective, scientific goal and mission scenario. The present status of the CE-7 project is especially introduced. The preliminary studies of long term lunar research station concept is also described. International cooperation is an important enabling power of lunar missions. The possible cooperation opportunities are addressed at different levels, different mission stages with different possible contributions.