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**BEIJING DECLARATION<sup>i</sup>**  
**北京宣言**

*We, the signatories:*

*Recognizing* that on April 24, 2008, in Beijing, China, under the leadership of the Chinese Society for Astronautics (CSA) and the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), the first “Global Space Development Summit” took place;

*Acknowledging* that the purpose of the Summit was to promote a renewed global dialogue on the future of civil space activity in general, and space exploration in specific, and to address the opportunities for more meaningful international integration of these activities for the benefit of all human kind;

*Noting* that the Summit was attended by a wide variety of space professionals -- diplomats, elected representatives, leaders of the aerospace industry and space agencies, academia, representatives from non-profit and international organizations, from around the world;

*Also noting* that fifteen countries, six embassies, six space agencies, two elected representatives, and nine non-profit and international organizations participated in this event;

*Also noting* the extraordinarily high caliber of the professional participants, and the frankness and depth of the international dialogue conducted under the auspices of the Summit, served as confirmation of the timeliness and importance of the meeting, and contributed greatly to its successful outcome;

*Recognizing* that the global space enterprise in 2007 was a major economic force, creating more than \$251 billion (US) in revenues, the preponderance (69%) representing commercial space activity<sup>ii</sup>;

*Also recognizing* that some 31% of global space revenues (\$77.2 billion US) continue to be driven by government space programs, and these programs in turn drive the technologies, innovation, services and international relationships of the future;

*Observing* that during last fifty years – the first space age – astronautics has flourished and science has benefited enormously from the expansion of human activity into space;

*Also observing* that although originally, a competition-driven and a government-only activity, space is now a vital component of the global society, providing for the economic well-being and security of developed nations;

*Also observing* that in addition to the US and Russia – the two original space powers – new space powers such as China, Europe, India and Japan have emerged;

*Considering* that global economies are now entering a new era, economic expansion is now powered by "globalicism" (全球主义) which is the symbiosis between the driving power of knowledge and related goods and services, and the networking of information technology;

*Also considering* that the key corollary of this new age is that continuing economic readjustments at macro and micro-levels, particularly at the level of space enterprises, are favored by permanent

negotiating processes with a view to secure sustainable benefits for all economies without compromising legitimate public policy aims;

*Emphasizing* that space also remains an expensive but potent foreign policy tool;

*Also emphasizing* that many positive interactions between nations have taken place during this first space age, yielding cooperative frameworks and schemes in all the applicative fields of space (Earth and space science, space exploration and space business) leading to a rich, varied fabric of cooperation;

*Also emphasizing* that multilateral models including, but not limited to, Intelsat, the Group on Earth Observation (GEO), the European Space Agency, the Disaster Charter, the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites, UNISPACE III framework, the IADC and the International Space Station provide us with an extensive experience and a positive inclination towards more international cooperation;

*Taking note* that as the world enters a challenging period characterized by globalization, dramatic population growth, serious environmental concerns and scarcity of resources, government space programs and budgets will be under great pressure and likely not receive the political and financial support enjoyed in the past.

***DO HEREBY DECLARE THE FOLLOWING:***

*We call upon* governments to rely more on the private sector to develop space activity while making sure that this development is sustainable.

*We encourage* international commercial partnerships based on government-to-government frameworks to ensure sustainability, bearing in mind that international cooperation must be based on four principles: mutual benefit, transparency, reciprocity, and cost sharing.

*We call upon* Humankind to embark upon a second space age – Space 2.0 – whereby governments will cooperatively nurture the dreams and hopes of the next generation. Doing so will require expanding the sphere of human influence within our solar system, pushing technology and policy barriers and, when appropriate, striving to integrate the efforts of many nations as a symbol of unity and peace.

*We support* the following recommendations, as it is our firm belief that project based cooperation can achieve noble and inspiring goals. During the first Global Space Development Summit in Beijing, one such strong global space program is recognized for its success and need for further support in Recommendation 1, while another global space project is proposed for consideration in Recommendation 2:

## Recommendation 1: 下

*Considering* that the rapidly growing need for a better understanding of the complexities of the Earth's environment,

*Noting* that the large number of nations with the ability to design, manufacture and launch earth-orbiting satellites,

*Considering* that the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) is an ambitious effort, bringing together in the broadest possible cooperation some seventy nations, working together to collect over the

long run, the vital measurements of the health and condition of planet Earth through an international system of space systems,

*Bearing in mind* that the progress made by GEO has been slowly attained and measured, but nonetheless is hugely significant as a symbol of beneficial multinational collaboration in space,

**We recommend** that the Group on Earth Observations project must continue to enjoy the strongest possible support of partner nations, and that the Group on Earth Observations is deserving of global recognition.

## Recommendation 2: 上

*Considering* that the time has come to make plans for activities after the International Space Station,

*Considering* that China and India have or are in the process of developing indigenous human space flight capabilities, and many nations have now ambitious lunar exploration programs, and

*Considering* that the official US Civil Space Policy (Vision for Space Exploration) is aimed at “going back to the moon to stay and has invited other nations to join in a spirit of friendship and cooperation”,

**We recommend** the collective proposal of a collaborative international space program with the concrete goal of establishing a permanent international outpost on the surface of the moon by the year 2025. We further agree to encourage our associations, institutions, and governments to study these ideas

**We also recommend** proposing that within the next year, a second *Global Space Development Summit* focusing on global space development projects be convened.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, have signed this Declaration, opened for signature in Beijing on the twenty-fourth day of April, two thousand and eight.

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<sup>i</sup> Signatories to the Declaration affirm their personal positions on the above items and do not necessarily reflect the position of their respective organization.

<sup>ii</sup> Source: *The Space Report 2008: The Authoritative Guide to Global Space Activity*, © 2008 The Space Foundation.