

**Statement by Dr. Jim Green, NASA Chief Scientist  
UNISPACE+50 Heads of Agency Panel  
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- Thank you for the opportunity to speak on this distinguished panel. It is so inspiring to look around the room and see so many countries from all over the world dedicating their time and resources to the peaceful uses of outer space.
- When NASA was created in 1958, its founding legislation—the National Aeronautics and Space Act—directed the new Agency to pursue cooperation “with other nations and groups of nations.” This principle of international cooperation has been a guiding philosophy for NASA and has never been more important than it is today. Collaboration is essential for human exploration beyond the frontiers of low-Earth orbit, and equally so for addressing scientific challenges that are inherently global and interrelated; expanding human knowledge by answering profound questions about the Earth and the universe we live in; understanding the climate and the environment; and leveraging technology investments to push the boundaries of innovation.
- The history of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and the history of NASA both date from 1958; and over the years, this committee has proven to be an effective catalyst for international cooperation. NASA looks forward to continuing to work closely with UNCOPUOS in the future.
- In carrying out our mandate of research and space exploration, NASA has entered into more than 3,000 agreements with more than 120 nations and international organizations since its establishment. NASA’s global partnerships are represented today by nearly 700 active agreements with partner entities around the world.
- While a few, long-standing international partners account for a large percentage of NASA’s international activities, NASA has expanded its global reach in recent years to include more cooperative activities with partners in Africa, Asia, and the Americas.
- Perhaps the best known example of our international cooperation is the International Space Station, the orbiting research laboratory built by the United States, Canada, the European Space Agency, Japan, and Russia, and called home by a rotating international crew of 6 after nearly 18 years of continuous crewed operations. NASA is continuing to pursue international

partnerships on large programs that push the boundaries of human and robotic space exploration, such as development of the James Webb Space Telescope, the Global Precipitation Measurement mission, and the Space Launch System. Our international partners are also an intrinsic part of planning for the programs of the future, such as our recent direction from the White House to send NASA astronauts back to the Moon, where we will establish the capacity to send humans to Mars.

- Our return to the Moon will draw on the interests and capabilities of our industry and international partners as we develop progressively complex robotic missions to the surface of the Moon with scientific and exploration objectives in advance of human return there.
- We will begin to build the in-space infrastructure for long-term exploration of the Moon by delivering to lunar orbit a power and propulsion element as the foundation of a Lunar Orbital Platform-Gateway.
- The Gateway will give us a strategic presence in lunar space that will drive our activity with commercial and international partners and help us further explore the Moon and its resources and translate that experience toward human missions to Mars.
- We will focus our technology work on applications toward deep space exploration.
- Human exploration, science and technology efforts will work together as never before to achieve our challenging goals.
- NASA's mission successes will continue to inspire the next generation, and we will use every opportunity to engage all learners in our work and help them continue to discover.
- We will continue to forge new paths and partnerships that build on our history and support a dynamic strategy going forward.
- Thanks again for the opportunity speak on this panel today. We look forward to continuing our robust portfolio of international collaboration and working closely with this distinguished committee, especially over the next two years as we develop the "Space2030" Agenda to help guide our future activities.