

Protecting the Environment of Celestial Bodies

IAA Commission V
Study Group 5.6

1. The Neccessity of New Approaches?

- ▣ New Lunar exploration programmes (collection of samples, human missions, permanent moon station)

2012 China

2015 USA

2028-32 Russian Federation

- ▣ Prevention measures necessary (s. Antarktis)

2. Status Quo

- ▣ Legal Obligations
- ▣ International Obligations:

protection of celestial bodies incl. Earth from
forward and back biological contamination

1967 Outer Space Treaty, Art. IX

1979 Moon Agreement, Art. 7

Standards

▣ International Standards:

2002 (2005) COSPAR Planetary Protection Policy

2006 Set of Recommendations of the WG on European
Cooperation for Space Standardization

▣ National Standards:

2002 CNES Planetary Protection Requirements

2005 NASA Planetary Protection Provisions

3. Open Questions:

- ▣ 1. Scope of protection limited to biological contamination, no prohibition of abandoning of space objects on Moon's trajectories, on its surface or below it;
- ▣ 2. International binding rules too vague and binding only the Parties;
- ▣ 3. Technical standards not fully harmonised;
- ▣ 4. National legislation not harmonised at all.

4. The Cosmic Study

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5. The Scope of the Proposed Study

- ▣ Aim: The analysis of methods and open issues of the Planetary Protection, with the aim to suggest further steps
- ▣ Methodical Scope: Beyond the biological protection – including the environment of the Moon as a whole. The question of the contamination of the Earth through space activities is not part of this study.

6. The Proposals:

- ▣ - differentiation of space activities and areas of celestial bodies
- ▣ - new interpretation of the „due dilligence“ principle
- ▣ - planetary parks
- ▣ - a model rule for licensing procedures.

IAC 2010!