



The ASI

**“VISION for MOON
EXPLORATION**

ASI is fully committed in “Exploration”

We will go to Mars together with ESA: main contributor and supporter of the European Exploration program “AURORA”, mainly focusing in the short-medium term on robots (i.e.the ExoMars mission).

NEXT STEP: ESA Council meeting at Ministerial level – Berlin, 5-6 December, 2005



ASI Approach (cont'd)

We will go to the Moon through an autonomous national program.

The third element will be the promotion and the use of the International Space Station at the maximum extent possible as a test-bed for exploration.

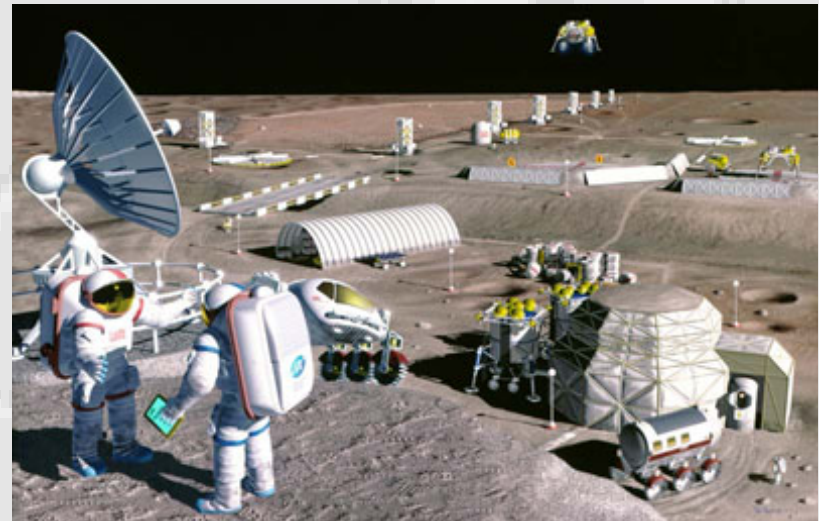
NEXT STEP: Implementation of the National Aerospace Plan 2006-2008

ASI Approach (cont'd)

The scientific questions to be answered will dominate the short-medium term exploration of the Moon

On the long term it is possible to consider the Moon for resources exploitation and as a test bed. It will be considered also as a permanent base,

to stay and to exploit the Earth natural satellite, and preparing and assisting the exploration of Mars and beyond



ASI Approach (cont'd)

- ASI National Programme is science oriented following 3 strategic guidelines:
 - “Science of the Moon” and evaluation of the resources for human permanence (oxygen, ice, radiation, ...)
 - “Science from the Moon”, using the Moon as a platform for Universe observation
 - Moon as a platform for observation of our planet Earth.

ASI Approach (cont'd)

- ASI is issuing 13 studies on various topics in order to develop the ASI “Vision for Moon Exploration”;
- Contracts will be awarded by the end of the year;
- On this basis, ASI missions to the Moon shall be planned



ASI Approach(cont'd)

- After that, ASI will issue the contracts to perform the A/B phase. Breadboarding of the most critical technologies and tests on Earth at representative sites will be included;
- Such activity of Phase AB is planned to be completed within mid 2008 in order to be ready for launching the orbiter around 2010-2012 and the landed segment around 2012-2015

ASI is open to discuss potential international collaborations