



Dear Buzz, and future Officers of the Lunar Infrastructure Development Corporation,

The Space Renaissance Initiative is happy and proud to accept your proposal, to endorse and support the Lunar Infrastructure Development Corporation, as it is exposed in the article “**A Different Kind of Moon Race**”, published on the Huffington Post web site (http://www.huffingtonpost.com/buzz-aldrin/a-different-kind-of-moon_b_317786.html)

We are also ready to do our part and to contribute to the works, providing our help at philosophical, scientific, technical and management level.

Such an initiative is fully in tune with the principles and goals expressed in our Manifesto (http://www.spacerenaissance.org/papers/The_Space_Renaissance_Manifesto.pdf), namely the industrialization of the Earth-Moon space region.

Such a goal, essential for the continuation of our civilization, can be reached only by a global effort of all good-willing citizens of planet Earth, in a spirit of broad cooperation and fair competition among private companies, countries, governments, space agencies, space communities and non-space communities.

We want to underline hereafter some key points, according to our philosophical setup.

- 1) The objective to start a process of industrialization of the Moon is fully shared by the Space Renaissance. We believe such a goal is feasible and affordable, and will be a great boost to validation of the technologies for low cost access to space. We also agree that such an initiative should take the shape of a great consortium among privates, governments, space agencies and any other institutions or communities willing to enter the working team. The mission of such a consortium shall be commercial, though it should also have, among its scopes, to provide facilities for scientific research and test facilities for technologies validation. The Moon, already many years ago, was identified as a giant, natural, test facility at just three days travel from Earth!
- 2) The Geo-Lunar space region is the highest priority, in the agenda of the next twenty years, starting from now. Our concept of Geo-Lunar region includes: the Earth Orbit (from LEO to GEO), the Moon Orbit, the Moon Surface, the Lagrange points and the Near Earth Asteroids crossing the Earth-Moon region.
- 3) We believe that in such agenda the Space Tourism industry (starting with sub-orbital tourism) has a key role. The validation of the technologies for low cost access to space passes through the space tourism market and industry. They should be involved in the process of the Geo-Lunar industrialization, and should be encouraged to new investments and to further develop, by means of aids and incentives.
- 4) We would like to emphasize that the LIDC should be a truly international initiative, endowed with a collegial direction, elected by their representatives, to which all participating nations will contribute.
- 5) We are particularly happy with the proposed greeting sentence: “**We come in peace again, in the name of the entire humanity**”. We also want to underline that women will have a great role in the Space Renaissance process and should be directly noted, since it is a process of giving life, and assuring the continuation of intelligent life – the only known one in the universe, so far.
- 6) We believe that a strategic program should be proposed starting from now, to all the good-willing Terrestrials, their communities, and their institutions. Such a plan shall include precise defined work-packages and scheduling, at least for this century, and look forward into the next century, with well defined objectives. Within this century we should achieve (in order of priority-time):
 - a. Low cost access to Earth Orbit, the first step to go anywhere, or, as R. A. Heinlein so insightfully said: to reach the *place where we will be half way for everywhere* (Earth Orbit).



- b. Earth-Moon-Lagrange region industrialization, with infrastructures for tourism, regular passenger transportation lines, cargo services, industrial settlements.
 - c. Space Based Solar Power plants, both in Earth Orbit and on the Moon, to provide clean energy to Earth and to all the space communities.
 - d. Exploration of asteroids, with the goal of utilizing their resources and to eventually establish orbital settlements throughout the solar system.
 - e. Human missions to Mars, for exploration and scientific study, with the goals (at least) of settlement of Mars and start investigating the great Asteroids Belt.
- 7) The full development of the human presence on Mars, starting with human exploration and settlement during this century, shall be the objective of the next century.

We must be aware that the first three decades of the 21st Century, the first of which is almost expired, are the most critical for the continuation of our civilization. If we will be able to write a program good enough for next two centuries our civilization of seven billion will have a chance to survive and keep on growing. If we will fail in this crucial task, our civilization will likely implode and regress to a stone age, as eminent personalities, like Stephen Hawking and James Lovelock recently stated.

Therefore let's work, let's do it well, let's do it quickly!

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The Space Renaissance Initiative Committee - <http://www.spacerenaissance.org/sri-bod.htm>

<http://www.spacerenaissance.org/>

http://www.spacerenaissance.org/papers/The_Space_Renaissance_Manifesto.pdf



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