

Resolution on the Agency's space exploration activities

(adopted on 22 June 2006)

Council,

RECALLING the discussions on the Director General's proposal concerning an advanced crew transportation system preparatory programme considered in the wider context of the Agency's activities devoted to space exploration,

1. EMPHASISES the need to develop expeditiously an overall strategic framework for the space exploration activities to be pursued by the Agency, and to associate closely Council and the delegate bodies concerned with this exercise, the findings on this matter to be set out in a report to be submitted by mid 2007.
2. INVITES the Director General to keep exploring over the next two years with potential partners in other space-faring nations a range of options for establishing a viable cooperation in the field of space exploration, and notably, in the short term, with interested organisations of the Russian Federation concerning a crew space transportation system, bearing in mind the applicable requirements, including those related to the International Space Station, and CONSIDERS that this should contribute to the definition of achievable scenarios for space exploration, with detailed indications on the corresponding

3. NOTES with appreciation that a number of Member States have indicated their readiness to provide financial contributions in the frame of the appropriate Agency programme to cover, at an acceptable level, the costs of carrying out activities referred to in section 2 above and INVITES the States concerned to finalise by 31 July 2006 at the latest the corresponding workplan and legal instruments so as to ensure that the required financial resources are actually made available.