



esa



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Paris, 5 March 2007

To: Scientific community  
SPC Delegates  
SSAC, AWG, SSWG and FPAG members

Dear Madam/Sir,

This letter is to inform you of the release of the Call for proposals for the first planning cycle of the new Cosmic Vision 2015-2025 plan of the ESA Science Programme.

This Call will lead to the selection of one medium-sized mission (Class M mission) to enter the implementation phase in 2012, with a launch foreseen in the mid-2017 time frame. The Call also invites proposals for concepts of more ambitious missions of the flagship category (Class L mission concepts) that will require an extended preparation phase and specific technology developments leading to a first launch opportunity in late 2018.

The proposals will be subjected to the ESA Science Programme competitive selection procedure detailed in the Call itself.

To facilitate the process, the Call must be retrieved electronically from the web at the following address:

<http://sci.esa.int/cv2015>

A separate call is being prepared and is expected to be released shortly by ESA's Directorate of Human Spaceflight and Exploration soliciting proposals for new missions in the context of the Agency's Exploration Programme (<http://www.esa.int/SPECIALS/Aurora/>).

The Science Directorate will review all proposals received. Proposers should also note that we are intending to transmit any proposals that fall in the area of Mars or Lunar science and that may thereby contain elements relevant to the ESA Exploration Programme, to the ESA Directorate of Human Spaceflight and Exploration who will assess any potential interest on their part. As the criteria for judgement will be different because of the different purposes of the programmes, evaluation will be done separately but coordinated between the two directorates according to their respective areas of responsibilities. In a similar spirit it is envisaged that proposals made to the Exploration call will also be looked at for their relevance to the Science Programme criteria.

I should appreciate if you could assure maximum access to the Call by circulating this letter to interested colleagues within your institution.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. David Southwood  
Director of Scientific Programme

Dr. Daniel Sacotte  
Director of Human Spaceflight  
and Exploration

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