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Wednesday's and Thursday's Highlights

On Wednesday morning the Space Generation Forum (SGF) participants headed for Austria's Space City, Graz, in the province of Styria, where they would stay for a two day sojourn.

Having finalized the ranking of their recommendations, it was now time to relax and think about the strategies of how to implement the chosen recommendations.

Graz was the perfect place to deliberate about these strategies. A sight-seeing tour, presentations of various institutions and companies, including Joanneum Research, AVL List etc. and fruitful discussions with some of Austria's space experts set a perfect framework for these activities and also gave a wonderful opportunity to discuss any SGF follow-up activities.

Besides these activities, some of the SGF participants further pursued the issue of human exploration of Mars and drafted the "Vision for the Human Exploration of Mars".

72 SGF delegates from 40 countries signed this document, which calls for a push in human Mars exploration, with the message being: "...sending humans to Mars will improve our lives

For further information about the "Vision for the Human Exploration of Mars" contact either:

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Friday's Highlights

Friday was the official closing day of the Space Generation Forum (SGF). In a creative slide show presentation of photos taken during the conference, the participants delighted in memories of the more distinguished moments of the last two weeks. Mr. Yash Pal , who addressed the participants at the opening ceremony, gave a farewell speech.

He expressed his hope that all the idealism, that he has sensed within the last few days with the SGF participants would remain with the group. Furthermore he encouraged the SGF participants to work on the implementations of their recommendations; to transform these visions into reality.

Each SGF organizer received a nice souvenir from the SGF delegates: a UN T-shirt, signed with all the signatures of the SGF delegates.

Following the closing ceremony most of the SGF participants attended the final meeting of the UNISPACE III Plenary to witness the approval of the SGF's Technical Report (Document: A/CONF.184/L.14).

Five of the SGF's top ten recommendations (marked in bold):

- **A Global Space Education Curriculum**
- **Priority Access to Mobile Satcom Network for Disaster Emergency Relief**
- International Space Authority
- SGF Follow-up
- Establishment of an International Centre for Space Medicine
- International Space Chamber of Commerce
- Action Plan for Meeting the World's Basic Needs through Technology
- **Nobel Space Prize**
- **UN Space Youth Advisory Council**
- **Planetary Defense/Protection**

were integrated into the Vienna Declaration of the UNISPACE III Conference (refer A/CONF.184/L.16/add.2) . Therefore, the buzz-word, "gimme five" took on a complete new meaning between SGF participants. For further information about the SGF Recommendations refer: A/CONF.184/L.8.

The Space Generation Forum is a forum for young space professionals organized by the alumni of the International Space University with the aim to express the visions and perspectives of the youth with regards to future space activities. The Space Generation Forum is attended by over 160 participants from more than 60 nations.

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