



## SGF PRESS RELEASE No. 7 - 23<sup>RD</sup> OF JULY 1999 -

### Thursday's Highlights

**T**he Space Generation Forum (SGF) participants began their day with a speech from Mr. Jim Baker, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). As Mr. Baker spoke about the space-based advances NOAA has made in the past few years, for example US Fiscal Year 1997-1998 marked the first solid El Niño forecast ever, it became clear that the participants' goals fell within NOAA range. Currently, however, the forecast information is not available to developing country citizens. SGF participants have recommended in their workshops that such information should be available over radio waves because radio waves are the most accessible, low cost means of accessing information.

**U**nfortunately, Mr. Dan Goldin, Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), was not available to speak to the participants. Ms. Lynn Cline, Deputy Associate Administrator for External Relations of NASA, came to apologise for him. She explained that Mr. Goldin was held in Washington, DC because of congressional budget cut threats.

**S**GF Workshops on Thursday were focussed on the 'cosmic' level, meaning their focus was intentionally extremely long term, and there were no boundaries beyond which the participants could not go with their ideas. The resulting recommendations were very exciting. They included an intergenerational, international, interdisciplinary ethics conference which would formalize a code of space ethics, a space education forum, the creation of a Nobel Space Prize, and a UN supported plan for Global Space Exploration and Development.

**I**n the evening a reception was hosted by the city of Vienna for the participants. Afterwards the participants worked on finalizing their recommendations for tomorrow's voting. The recommendations were due at 02:00.

**T**hursday saw also the kick-off of the International Rocket Competition, part of the UNISPACE III Space Festival which is occurring simultaneously. A kite competition is also part of the space festival, whereby the kites will be equipped with a camera for 'remote

## **Friday's Highlights**

**T**oday, 23 July 1999, is the last day of the International Rocket Competition. It will begin at 11:00 in the Donaupark next to the Donauturm lasting till 17:00, including the award ceremony for the winners of the rocket and the kite competitions. Contact point for the International Rocket Competition is Ms. Jana Deckert, Phone No.: + 49 171 217 22 29

**A**t the Space Generation Forum the participants will vote on the 45 best recommendations from the three days of workshops. They will produce the top 10 recommendations they feel meet the SGF criteria best. The criteria include whether the recommendation is new (not covered by any existing UNISPACE III Draft Report recommendation already), whether it has benefits to humankind, shows potential to accelerate the progress of space programmes and activities, is effective, efficient and concrete, is not in conflict with national interests, and is a good topic for follow-up activities by the SGF.

**A**fter the gruelling process of cutting the 45 recommendations to 10, the SGF participants will relax at a "Heurigen" evening (a "Heurigen" is a traditional Viennese outdoor restaurant).

*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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