1st Information Circular
1st International MEPAG meeting
(24th MEPAG Meeting)
June 16-17, 2011
Lisbon, Portugal

Letter of Invitation

Members of the Mars community,

I cordially invite you to attend the first international meeting of the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG), scheduled for June 16-17, 2011, at the Tivoli Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal.

There have been many developments in Mars exploration in both NASA and ESA over the past year. This meeting will focus on the implications of these as well as the overall status of Mars exploration. This will be the first international meeting of MEPAG and it directly supports NASA's and ESA's intent to collaborate on Mars exploration. The meeting agenda will address the status and plans for current missions as well as current planning for future missions. This will also be the first MEPAG meeting that can respond to the Decadal Survey results.

Key discussion topics will include:

- Discussion of NASA's and ESA's Mars program status, budget, current missions, and forward planning.
- Input from ongoing SAGs, including the International End-to-End SAG for the MSR campaign
- Mars Decadal Survey results, as appropriate.
- Planning for future MEPAG work.

The meeting is open to all members of the Mars science community and so I welcome our international colleagues. We will also broadcast the meeting via WebEx for those who cannot attend in person.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Lisbon!

Sincerely,
Dr. David Des Marais
MEPAG Chair

DRAFT Agenda for MEPAG meeting of June 16-17, 2011 in Lisbon, Portugal

Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all time speakers should assume that 30-50% of their time allocation is for discussion.

Start	Time	Agenda Item	
Day 1 – Thursday June 16, 2011			
08:30 AM	0:10	Setting the context: The importance of this as the first international MEPAG meeting	M. Meyer, J. Vago
08:40 AM	0:10	Welcome; Desired Outcomes of this Meeting, Introduction to the Agenda	D. Des Marais, MEPAG Chair
08:50 AM	0:30	NRC Decadal Survey Mars findings and implications	S. Squyres
09:20 AM	0:40	The view from ESA: Current Mars Exploration Status and Future Challenges and Opportunities	J. Vago
10:00 AM	0:15	Break	
10:15 AM	0:40	The view from NASA: Current Mars Exploration Status and Future Challenges and Opportunities	D. McCuistion
10:55 AM	0:15	Status of NASA's operating and developmental missions	F. Li
11:10 AM	0:15	Status of ESA's Mars Express Mission	O. Witasse
11:25 AM	1:30	Lunch	
12:55 PM	0:30	MSL Landing site report/discussion	M. Golombek/J. Grant
01:25 PM	0:30	Report on ESA Landing Site meeting	TBD
01:55 PM		**Planning Activity Related to the MSR Campaign**	
01:55 PM	2:00	E2E-iSAG	M. Sephton/S. McLennan
03:55 PM		Scientific objectives of MSR	
03:55 PM		Implications for samples, sample acquisition	
03:55 PM		Implications for landing site	J. Grant
03:55 PM	0:15	Break	
04:10 PM	0:45	2018 Mission--implementation planning	
04:55 PM		ExoMars Rover	J. Vago/P. Baglioni
04:55 PM		Mission System	TBD
04:55 PM	0:30	Day 1 discussion and wrap-up	D. Des Marais
05:25 PM		Adjourn	
Day 2 – Friday June 17, 2011			
08:30 AM	0:05	Recap of yesterday and goals for today	D. Des Marais
08:35 AM		**Planning Activity Related to the MSR Campaign (continued)**	
08:35 AM	1:00	Planetary Protection related to MSR	Conley/G. Kminek
09:35 AM		**Other Planning Activity**	
09:35 AM	0:30	2016 ExoMars TGO	M. Allen/O. Witasse
10:05 AM	0:15	Break	
10:20 AM	0:30	Phobos Sample Return Study Overview	D. Koschny
10:50 AM	0:30	Mars Network Study Overview	TBD
11:20 AM	0:20	Report from Mars Atmosphere Conference (Paris, February)	F. Forget
11:40 AM	0:20	Report from Geobiology in Space Exploration workshop Marrakech, February)	C. Cockell
12:00 PM	0:30	Discussion/Future Planning for MEPAG Activities	D. Des Marais
12:30 PM		Adjourn	

WebEx directions will be provided in a later announcement.

Basic Logistics

- Date: Thursday, June 16 – 8:30 AM until 5:30 PM.
  Friday, June 17 – 8:30 AM until 12:30 PM
- Location: **Hotel Tivoli Lisboa, Av. da Liberdade, 185, Lisbon, 1269-050, Portugal**. http://tivolihotels.com/Default.aspx?ID=5341
- Hotel Reservation Information: Please see the accommodation page for the International Conference: Exploring Mars Habitability at: http://www.congrex.nl/11a14/.
- Meeting RSVP: So that we can plan the meeting logistics (e.g., seating, morning and afternoon refreshments, name badges, handouts, etc.), we request that all participants RSVP by May 19, 2011 to Joyce Pulliam (Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov). Please note that an RSVP is not required to attend the meeting, but primarily for planning purposes.

If you need additional information, please contact Charles Budney, MEPAG meeting coordinator, charles.j.budney@jpl.nasa.gov, phone = 818-354-3981, FAX = 818-393-3035. If you have updates to the master MEPAG e-mail list (either correction of faulty e-mail addresses, addition of Mars science colleagues who have been inadvertently omitted), or deletions, please contact Joyce Pulliam (Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov).