

20th IAA SYMPOSIUM ON BUILDING BLOCKS FOR FUTURE SPACE EXPLORATION AND
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Late breaking abstracts (LBA)

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ADVANCING SUSTAINABILITY FOR PLANNED LUNAR MISSIONS: ADDRESSING GLOBAL
CHALLENGES THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL MOON DAY 2022

Abstract

Every neoteric year, an assortment of actors, namely, Space Academics, Space Agencies and Companies, are proposing missions with increasing focus on returning to the Moon for good. In many instances, these actors have published their own mission plans and strategies for exploring and settling on the lunar surface by highlighting a variety of cultural, economic, political, scientific, and technological rationales. Despite of this universal interest in lunar exploration and settlement, current plans lack evaluations of coordination and sustainability respecting global challenges. At the International Astronautical Federation Global Networking Forum in March 2022, a non-governmental organization based in Vienna, Austria, confirmed that it is taking an initiative to organize the International Moon Day. This paper critically reviews the significance of the new theme because lunar exploration and settlement must be acknowledged as beneficial to humanity in order to conserve the required support to the activities of the next generation of humanity.