

Summay of the third stage of Next Decade Initiatives for Lunar Planetary Explorations

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The Next Decade Initiatives for Lunar Planetary Explorations is now in the final phase of the third stage selection. The concept and progress of the third stage selection will be presented.

We have been discussed the mid-range (the next decade or two) future vision of planetary explorations providing the best mix of medium- to large-size flagship missions, small-size missions, and missions of opportunity for science payloads on foreign missions; the compelling concepts of the flagship missions that are central to the mid-range future vision, and strategy for unifying the planetary science community to the flagship missions. The final candidates for the flagship missions are (1) the lunar (or planetary) chronological mission based on the in-situ geochronology instruments, (2) the Mars lander and rover exploration with science payloads including the life-detection experiment system, and (3) the solar power sail mission for Trojan asteroids with cruising phase observation of the cosmic infrared background radiation. The selection committee are now reviewing the three mission concepts to polish up. I will report on the activity of the committee and discuss the relation to the ISAS's roadmap for space science approved by the Japanese Strategic Headquarter for Space Policy in September 2013.

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