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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Vice President

September 2, 1993

United States-Russian Joint Commission  
on Energy and Space

Joint Statement on Cooperation in Space

Having reviewed the status of the agreement between the United States of America and the Russian Federation Concerning Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes dated June 17, 1992, the Parties note with satisfaction past agreement on the following: the flight of a Russian cosmonaut on the Space Shuttle System in 1993 and 1994, and American astronauts on the MIR station, the docking and a joint flight of these two space complexes in 1995. These activities are consistent with the



national space programs of both countries and the overall development of a spirit of trust, partnership, and long-term political and scientific and technological cooperation between Russia and the United States.

Based on the agreement reached at a meeting of the U.S. and Russian Presidents in Vancouver on April 3-4, 1993 and June 17, 1992, the Parties see great promise and mutual benefit through cooperation in space science and exploration activities.

Given the particular importance for Russia and the U.S. of their respective efforts in developing a new generation of orbital stations for scientific and technological progress and human activities in space, the Parties regard further cooperation in this area as most important, and consistent with the interests of both Russia and the U.S., as well as the broader international community.

With this in mind it is the intent of the U.S. and Russia to undertake a cooperative human space flight program. Interim investigations have already indicated potential advantages of joint cooperative activities in a truly international space station program. The Parties intend to pursue such cooperation in accordance with the following principles.

- joining on a mutually beneficial basis the resources and the scientific, technological, and industrial potentials of Russia and the U.S. in space activities to carry out a large-scale program of scientific, technical, and technological research;
- working with each of our current partners, and in accordance with earlier international obligations assumed by each of the Parties under the Freedom and MIR projects;
- [2] - operating in an orbit which is accessible by both U.S. and Russian resources,
- utilizing compatible service systems, enhancing reliability of the station and increasing the flexibility of transportation and technical maintenance,
- performing activities under cooperative programs on mutually beneficial terms, and including on a contract basis the procurement of individual systems and units or the provision of services.

The first phase of our joint programs begins immediately and is designed to form a basis for resolution of engineering and technical problems. This initial phase encompasses an expansion of our bilateral program involving the U.S. Space Shuttle and the Russian MIR Space Station. The MIR will be made available for U.S. experiments for up to two years of total U.S. astronaut stay time. The number of Space Shuttle flights and the length of crew stay time will depend upon the details of the experiments to be defined by November 1, 1993. During phase one, the use of the Russian modules "Priroda" and "Spektr," equipped with U.S. experiments, could undertake a wide-scale research program. These missions will provide valuable in-orbit experience in rendezvous, docking, and joint space-based research in life sciences, microgravity, and Earth resources. It will bring to reality performance of large-scale space operations in the future. The Parties consider it is reasonable to initiate in 1993 the joint development of a solar dynamic power system with a test flight on the Space Shuttle and MIR in 1996, the joint development of environmental control and life support systems, and the joint development of a common space suit.

Subsequent joint efforts on the second phase will be directed to the use of a Russian MIR module of the next generation, in conjunction with a U.S. laboratory module and the U.S. Space Shuttle. This facility would provide an interim human-tended space science capability where significant scientific experimentation can take place in a microgravity environment and also provide practical experience gained out of the use of different transportation systems (including the U.S. Space Shuttle and the Russian Proton), performance of complex construction and assembly efforts and command and control process of orbital structure of considerable complexity. Successful implementation of this phase could constitute a key element of a truly international space station.

*It is envisioned that the U.S. will provide compensation to Russia for services to be provided during phase one in the amount of \$100 million dollars in FY 1994. Additional funding of \$300 million dollars, for compensation of phase one and for mutually [3] agreed upon phase two activities, will be provided through 1991. This funding and appropriate agreements will be confirmed and signed by no later than November 1, 1993. Other forms of mutual cooperation and compensation will be considered as appropriate.*

*All the above programs are mutually connected and are considered as a single package, the main goal of which is to create an effective scientific research complex earlier and with less cost than if done separately. The Parties are convinced that a unified Space Station can offer significant advantages to all concerned, including current U.S. partners, Canada, Europe, and Japan.*

*The precise planning process and organization of drafted phases of joint activity will give the opportunity to benefit both countries through expanded cooperative efforts on the space station project.*

*The Parties hereby instruct NASA and RSA, in pursuance of this Joint Statement, to develop by November 1, 1993, a detailed plan of activities for an international space station. This will serve as the basis for early review and decision within each government and as the basis for consultations with the international partners. Upon conclusion of the process of government approval and consultation, appropriate implementing agreements will be signed. NASA and RSA will include within the plan overall configuration, volumes, and forms of contributions and mutual compensation for Russian and U.S. activities.*