

## **The Space Generation Forum at UNISPACE III**

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UNISPACE III, the 3rd UN Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Use of Outer Space, was convened under the theme "Space Benefits for Humanity in the 21st Century". This big conference brought together space experts, policy makers, scientists, political and economic leaders on the highest levels from all over the world to exchange their ideas and visions how to approach and make use of space in the next century.

As these discussions focused on a long-term perspective the United Nations had agreed that an international Youth Forum of university students and young professionals should be organized to include the world's youth's opinion on that important topic.

The **Space Generation Forum (SGF)** (SGF Homepage: <http://space-generation.org/>) is this official Youth Forum and - as part of UNISPACE III - was held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC) from July 19 to 30, 1999.

More than 100 visions and ideas were generated in these two weeks, written in the form of recommendations, discussed and voted upon to derive the 10 most important ones and finally drafted as the "[Declaration of the Space Generation](#)", which got approved by the UNISPACE III Plenary as the SGF's Technical Report (refer UN-Document: A/CONF.184/L.14).

Five of the SGF's top ten recommendations (marked in *Italic*):

- *A Global Space Education Curriculum*
- *Priority Access to Mobile Satcom Network for Disaster Emergency Relief*
- International Space Authority
- SGF Follow-Up
- Establishment of an International Centre for Space Medicine
- International Space Chamber of Commerce
- Action Plan for Meeting the World's Basic Needs through Technology
- *Nobel Space Prize*
- *UN Space Youth Advisory Council (YAC)*
- *Planetary Defense/Protection*

were even integrated in the Vienna Declaration (the most important document!) of the UNISPACE III Conference (refer UN-Document: A/CONF.184/L.16/add.2).