

D/SCI/DJS/SV/val/23487

Paris, 18 October 2007

To: The Scientific Community  
SPC Delegates  
SSAC, AWG, SSWG and FPAG members

## SOLAR ORBITER MISSION

Dear Colleagues,

The purpose of this letter is to draw your attention to the Announcement of Opportunity (AO) for the Solar Orbiter Payload which has been released on 18 October 2007. Solar Orbiter is the next solar-heliospheric mission in the Science Programme of ESA. It has recently been redefined as part of a joint ESA-NASA programme called Heliophysical Explorers that comprises ESA's Solar Orbiter and NASA's Solar Sentinels as a highly synergetic programme. The Solar Orbiter mission is devoted to solar and heliospheric physics. It will be carried out as an ESA-led mission open to the worldwide science community.

The AO can be retrieved electronically at the following address:

[http://sci.esa.int/solarorbiter\\_ao](http://sci.esa.int/solarorbiter_ao)

**The closing date for receipt of proposals is midnight, Tuesday 15 January 2008**

I should appreciate if you would circulate this letter to interested colleagues or institutions.

Yours faithfully,



Dr. S. Volonte  
Head of Science Planning and  
Community Coordination Office