

Vienna, 17 November 2008

**The United Nations Information Service (UNIS) Vienna**

invites you to a

**Press Briefing**

on the presentation of the report

**Asteroid Threats: A Call for Global Response**

on

**Tuesday, 25 November 2008 at 11:30 hours**

at

**Vienna International Centre (VIC)**

Press Briefing Room, C-building, 3th floor

On the occasion of a briefing for Permanent Missions by the Association of Space Explorers (ASE) the report "Asteroid Threats: A Call for Global Response" addressing global response to the threats posed by Near-Earth Objects will be presented.

The International Panel on Asteroid Threat Mitigation (IPATM) comprising members of the Association of Space Explorers (ASE) and a group of renowned experts and scientists has issued the report on the need to develop an international decision-making mechanism for global response to Near-Earth Object threats. The international community, through the United Nations and its competent organs, is called upon to make decisions on a coordinated response to mitigate asteroid impact on Earth.

**Speakers:**

**Russell Schweickart**

Astronaut and Chair of IPATM

**Dorin Prunariu**

Cosmonaut and Chairman of the Board, Romanian Space Agency

**Richard Crowther**

Chairman of the Working Group on Near-Earth Objects  
of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of COPUOS

**Walther Lichem**

Member of IPATM

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*ASE, a non-governmental organization, based in the United States of America, with over 320 members from 34 nations who have flown in space, has observer status with the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS). The Scientific and Technical*

*Subcommittee of COPUOS is currently addressing the issue of Near-Earth Objects in a Working Group and in the Subcommittee's Action Team on Near-Earth Objects.*

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***Please present this invitation along with a valid identification document upon entry to the Vienna International Centre (VIC)***