

No. 104

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has the honor to convey that the Government of the United States of America invites the Government of the Czech Republic to participate in the ministerial level International Space Exploration Forum (ISEF) in Washington, D.C. at the Department of State on Thursday, January 9, 2014.

The exploration and utilization of space benefits all humankind. It furthers innovation and economic development, fosters scientific advancement, and inspires the next generation of explorers to pursue studies and careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Government-level involvement and support for human and robotic space exploration are critical to realizing these benefits. The ISEF provides an opportunity for nations to strengthen international cooperative efforts and discuss policy issues relevant to the exploration, long-term sustainability, development and utilization of this important domain.

The ISEF will build on the High Level International Space Exploration Dialogue held in November 2011, in Lucca, Italy. The United States anticipates the involvement of Ministers and senior officials from ministries and agencies in the Government of the Czech Republic responsible for space, science and technology. We are inviting approximately 40 countries and intergovernmental entities engaged in space activities to send a Principal plus up to three delegates each to ISEF. Each delegation will be invited to provide a written statement of their views on designated themes for compilation and distribution in advance of the meeting.

DIPLOMATIC NOTE

Diplomatic Note No. 104 (continued)

Principals will also be invited to a Gala Dinner hosted by the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA) on the evening of January 9, 2014. The Gala Dinner will be part of the IAA Heads of Space Agencies Summit on Exploration on January 10, 2014. Other delegates may purchase tickets to the dinner through the IAA.

The United States hopes that your Government will participate in ISEF. In order to facilitate planning, please respond by **Friday October 4**, stating whether your Government will participate in ISEF and, if possible, providing the names of the Principal and up to 3 delegates who will attend, as well as a point of contact who will coordinate your participation.

Please direct responses and any inquiry on this subject to Mangala Sharma (SharmaM@state.gov) and Robert Ford (FordRJ@state.gov) at the U.S. Department of State in Washington.

The Embassy of the United States of America avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs the assurances of its highest consideration.

Embassy of the United States of America,
Prague, August 23, 2013.

