The following is an English version of the official Japanese announcement, which has been given to the Tokyo Stock Exchange and the media in Tokyo, Japan.

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For Immediate Release

SPARX Group Co., Ltd.
President and Group CEO Shuhei Abe
(TSE1: 8739)

SPARX Space Frontier Fund Invests in ispace For Future Lunar Economy

—Developing transportation and other services to the moon through a lunar lander and rover—

TOKYO—August 20, 2020—SPARX Innovation for the Future (SIF)—a subsidiary of SPARX Group Co., Ltd. (SPARX; TSE1: 8739)—today announced that its Space Frontier Fund, established in May 2020 and starting managing in June of the same year, has invested in ispace, a firm that plans to create a lunar economy by building lunar-surface transportation services and developing lunar resources. ispace intends to use this round of fundraising to advance its development of a lunar lander and rover, while simultaneously working on the early stages of a medium-sized lander. It also aims to have its lander reach the moon's surface in 2022 and to survey the surface with the rover that will be on board.

Portfolio Company Outline

CEO Takeshi Hakamada founded White Label Space Japan in September 2010 with a vision to "Expand our planet. Expand our future." The company was reorganized as ispace in May 2013 with the aim to extend the reach of humanity into space and create a sustainable world. It is advancing the development of its lander and rover, building a platform for logistics and transportation services to carry supplies to the lunar surface, and aiming to create a lunar economy that includes the development of lunar resources.

For more details on ispace, visit their website at https://ispace-inc.com.

Space Frontier Fund Overview

The Space Frontier Fund primarily seeks to support human resources and technology development in space-related industries, to foster Japanese space companies that are competitive on the world stage, and to contribute to technological innovation throughout Japan. Under SIF as its manager, the Fund began operations in June 2020 with an initial investment of JPY 8.2 billion from Toyota Motor Corporation, Mitsubishi UFJ Bank, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, Mizuho Bank, and others. The Fund is targeting JPY 15 billion in total assets under management.

SIF's homepage: https://sparxsif.com/en/

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