



Question(s) and Answer(s) 3

Q1. In the context of the statement that "Priority planetary target bodies are Mars and the moon," does Mars includes the moons of Mars? In which case, could a proposal to study asteroid science be considered to address Mars, via study of Phobos and Deimos?

Some background rationale for this:

There's some great science to be done on Phobos and Deimos, and at least one mission being firmly planned (Fobos-Grunt-2, aiming to land on Phobos) that CSA could partner on in the early 2020s. And Phobos is expected to be covered with ejecta from Mars surface impacts, so Phobos science is tied significantly to Mars surface science.

The " Canadian Scientific Priorities for the Global Exploration Strategy" document mentions, " Mars' two small moons, Phobos and Deimos, which are thought to be captured asteroids, could be studied in conjunction with investigations of Mars and act as a useful low-orbit staging base for operations on Mars" under Objective PG-S-1.

A1. The moons of Mars are excluded from this study. We will focus on the planet Mars only.