**Acronyms**

NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

RAdio Detection And Ranging

Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation

[self contained underwater breathing apparatus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scuba_set) (scuba)

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS)

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)

**Abbreviations**

Personal digital assistant

for your information

[RSVP (invitations)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RSVP_(invitations)), request for responses (French: *répondez s'il vous plaît*)