Summary of the APT business session

The following is an abbreviated summary of the open discussion during the final session of the TWAA96, on 13 December 1996. Chair: Dr D Jauncey (ATNF).

Resolutions

1. From Hayo Hase (IfAG) That the APT and APSG;

recognizing the need for a high precision global reference frame for APT and APSG regional projects,

understanding that modern space techniques (VLBI, SLR, GPS, PRARE, DORIS) together with other measuring techniques (gravimetry, seismography, meteorology, tide gauging) contribute in the most efficient way, when all techniques are collocated and operated on a long term base for the establishment and maintenance of the global reference frame,

encourages the formation of fundamental reference and calibration stations in the Asia-Pacific region and,

endorses the hosting of the Transportable Integrated Geodetic Observatory (TIGO) by nations in the Asia-Pacific region.

2. From John Manning (AusLIG) That the APSG;

considering the need for clearer identification of tectonic movement in the Asia Pacific Region to better understand and predict natural events,

the need for the combination of different space geodesy techniques to avoid systematic bias,

the increasing utility of the combination of geodetic techniques towards the study of meteorology, atmospheric, ocean circulation and the earth's interior,

recognizing that the permanent committee on GIS infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific has initiated an Asia and the Pacific Regional Geodetic Project for October 1997,

that the project plans to combine the geodetic results from VLBI, SLR, GPS, DORIS and Gravity,

recommends that the APT supports the acquisition of geodetic VLBI data from up to six stations for two 24 hour periods in October as a contribution to the project,

that participating VLBI analysis centres, who have the capacity, undertake correlation of results for the relevant Geodetic baselines,

that the Shanghai Observatory undertakes the regional coordination of the data acquisition and delivery of tapes to the Goddard Space Flight centre.

3. After a presentation from E Himwich on the status of the PC Field System (PCFS), the meeting passed a resolution congratulating NASA on their invaluable contribution to VLBI in the area of scheduling, and requested that this be conveyed in writing to NASA HQ.

APT experiments

Proposals for APT observations for 1997 were made as follows;

- 2 x 24hr Mark-3 S/X geodesy experiments, with ~6 stations to coincide with the Regional Geodetic Project in October 1997. Nominated coordinator: Qian Zhihan *(qzh@center.shao.ac.cn)*.
- 2x12hr observations of 22GHz H_2O masers, in mid-1997 between Japan and Australia. Nominated coordinator: Tetsuo Sasao *(sasao@miz.nao.ac.jp)*.

  Discussion was also made of the following two proposed observations: names of possible participants are shown in brackets.
- S/X pulsar astrometry phase-reference survey (Shin'ichi Hama, *hama@crl.go.jp*)
- low-frequency (λ ~90cm) pulsar observations (S Ananthakrishnan *ananth@gmrt.ernet.in*, M Costa *Marco.Costa@phys.utas.edu.au*).

–John Reynolds (ATNF)