

Memorandum of the 4-th RADIOASTRON Meeting

Moscow, 14-16 April, 1987

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss international cooperation on radio astronomy scientific equipment for the RADIOASTRON mission, to review recent progress in preparations for the mission since the last meeting in Moscow, 16-17 December 1986, and to obtain specific scientific and technical details of the Soviet RADIOASTRON spacecraft.

The agenda and the list of participants are attached as Appendix 1.

Soviet and foreign participants gave overviews of the present concept for the RADIOASTRON mission and the international ground-based VLBI network (see agenda).

It was agreed that a small working group would be established to investigate the management of the overall space-ground VLBI system and report the results at the next meeting.

A memorandum was signed on the Agreement between the Space Research Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences and the European Consortium for VLBI on a joint Space VLBI experiment. The Agreement concerns the provision by the European Consortium of a 6-cm receiver for the RADIOASTRON spacecraft. It is expected that all remaining unresolved technical details on this receiver will be agreed by October 1987.

A preliminary version of the Agreement on the 1.35 cm receiver between IKI and NRAO was worked out and will be considered by NRAO by September 1987.

A preliminary version of the Agreement on the 18-cm receiver between IKI and CSIRO Division of Radiophysics was worked out and will be considered by CSIRO by September 1987.

The Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (Astronomical Institute and Institute of Radioelectronics) decided to participate in following parts of the RADIOASTRON project:

- Scientific programme of observations (during the period 1990-1994);
- Development and realization of an on-board heterodyne and sample-rate frequencies synthesizer (by 1990);

Both sides (IKI and CSAV) will prepare a draft programme of the scientific and technical cooperation on the RADIOASTRON by the next RADIOASTRON meeting (October 1987).

Taking into account the achievement of the Radio Astronomy Department of the Torun University in VLBI observations it was decided to request the Academy of Sciences of Poland to consider the possibility of participation in RADIOASTRON mission in:

- Development and realization of a 92-cm on-board receiver;
- Providing observing time on the new 32-m radio telescope;
- Participation in scientific programme and data processing.

The request should be considered by September 1987.

Scientists from the Satellite Geodetic Observatory (Penc, Hungary) and IKI have interest in studying different tracking technique in order to:

- Optimize connections between the tracking and data processing system;

- Study the astrometric, geodetic and geodinamic applications of RADIOASTRON.

Occasional consultations will be necessary during 1987 between scientists of Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and the Soviet Union to discuss technical details of the RADIOASTRON programme.

December

The next meeting will be held in ~~October~~ 1987 in Moscow.

Signed

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G.Setti

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(continued)

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