EUROPEAN SOUTHERN OBSERVATORY

ORGANISATION EUROPEENNE POUR DES RECHERCHES ASTRONOMIQUES
DANS L’HEMISPHERE AUSTRAL

SCIENTIFIC TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

58th Meeting
ESO, Garching, October 26 & 27, 2004

STC Recommendations
Recommendations of the 58th STC Meeting

PRIMA and STS recommendation

The STC were impressed by the high scientific quality of the PRIMA reference mission. The increased operational advantages, the importance of continued exploitation and full completion of the VLTI’s unique capabilities, make the addition of further UT star separators very attractive. The STC recommends that the proposal for a third star separator on a UT should be pursued and the external funds accepted. The possibility of further contributions to fund a fourth UT star separator should also be pursued. At its next meeting the STC would like to see a full plan for the implementation of the PRIMA programme.

ESO should present a plan for the definition and procurement of second generation VLTI instruments (similar to that prepared for the VLT) before the workshop on second generation VLTI instruments takes place.

Open Access to ESO Archive

The STC welcomes the proposal to open the archive to the worldwide community.

VLT-VLTI Science operations policy

The STC approves the updated version of the VLT-VLTI Science operations policy document. It recommends that the paragraph concerning the guaranteed time makes it explicit that the guaranteed time holder can use their guaranteed time as large programs within the rules attached to those.