

## Minutes of Meeting ESO Chile Committee 6 December 2019

### Participants:

- Chile: Felipe Barrientos (FBA), Sebastián López (SLO), Matías Gómez (MGO), Mónica Rubio (MRU), Ricardo Demarco (RDE), José Luis Prieto (JPR)
- ESO: Xavier Barcons (XBA), Andreas Kaufer (AKA), Claudio Melo (CME), Itziar de Gregorio (IdG), Gautier Mathys (GMA)

### Agenda:

1. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 14 December 2018 and 8 April 2019 & Introduction of new members (if any)
2. ESO update (X. Barcons)
3. News from Chile (F. Barrientos)
4. ESO Office for Science matters (I. De Gregorio)
5. Hosted Telescopes procedure approval and Hosted Telescopes status (G. Mathys)

### **1. Approval of the minutes of the meetings of 14 December 2018 and 8 April 2019 & Introduction of new members (if any)**

The minutes of the meetings of 14 December 2018 and 8 April 2019 are approved without modifications. The Committee considers that the level of detail of these minutes is unnecessarily high. It is agreed that future minutes should only present a summary of the meeting.

FBA reports that Patricia Arevalo will no longer be able to serve on the Committee; a replacement will be appointed before the next meeting.

### **2. ESO update**

The ESO Update presentation that was given by XBA is available at [https://europeansouthernobservatory-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/marrau\\_eso\\_org/Eb9\\_mCHlrstOogSexs5Y36oBOP4XmLrZzfyRdDyxg1kEcQ?e=fjk9ry](https://europeansouthernobservatory-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/marrau_eso_org/Eb9_mCHlrstOogSexs5Y36oBOP4XmLrZzfyRdDyxg1kEcQ?e=fjk9ry)

MRU reports that, as a result of the unrest in Chile, the APEX observations that were scheduled as part of the Chilean time during the week of 18 October could only be carried out at the cost of lot of effort from the observers.

### **3. News from Chile**

The presentation of the News from Chile that was given by FBA is available at [https://europeansouthernobservatory-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/marrau\\_eso\\_org/EeuZW00vkbPskZnDCCdU70BQfE48zmCc7FLh1bFQ1B1Vg?e=0qW7zm](https://europeansouthernobservatory-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/marrau_eso_org/EeuZW00vkbPskZnDCCdU70BQfE48zmCc7FLh1bFQ1B1Vg?e=0qW7zm)

#### **4. ESO Office for Science matters**

IdG commented on the following subjects:

ESO studentships selection process: two students from Chilean universities were shortlisted.

ESO fellowships selection process: among the applicants, there are four Chileans working abroad and two non-Chileans working in Chilean institutions

ESO fellows and staff members are actively contributing to the seminar and lecture programmes at different universities:

- Master degree at University of Antofagasta
- Advanced course for Astrophysics for PhD students at Universidad Andres Bello (UNAG); topics of Astrophysics and Astrobiology

The ESO Office for Science has a lot of interaction with Universidad de Valparaiso (many of the students and applicants are coming from this institution)

The ESO Internships programme, which is intended for short-term undergraduate and PhD students to work on small projects, has been formalized. There are now two calls per year; the first one was advertised through SOCHIAS. The pressure factor is high (3–4); the programme raises a lot of interest, but runs on a very limited budget. Possibilities of partial external financial support should be explored.

#### **5. Hosted telescope procedure**

The presentation on the Hosted Telescopes status and procedure that was given by GMA is available at

[https://europeansouthernobservatory-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/person/marrau\\_eso\\_org/EVf3ZL6RipNMPcF84FFoOPQBMD51XSVkeld\\_r3vE8OdY\\_w?e=QVpz9r](https://europeansouthernobservatory-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/person/marrau_eso_org/EVf3ZL6RipNMPcF84FFoOPQBMD51XSVkeld_r3vE8OdY_w?e=QVpz9r)

FBA indicated that he would get in touch with Paul Groot, the contact person for BlackGEM, with a view to agreeing on a selection procedure for a second Chilean participating team.

The Committee agreed with the revised version of the Hosted Telescopes procedure. FBA will submit it to the CNTAC chair for review, with a view to proceeding with its approval before end of the year.

#### **6. Miscellaneous**

SLO asked what was the oversubscription of the Chilean time on the ESO telescopes in recent ESO periods. XBA answered that this information would be retrieved and communicated to the Committee. FBA pointed out that it would prove useful as a reference for review of the priority assignment to Chilean Service Mode runs. It was agreed that discussion of this issue would be put on the agenda of the next ESO-Chile Committee meeting.

MRU reported that there is apparently a new requirement of a 5-night minimum run length requirement for financial support by ESO of a student as second observer for Visitor Mode observing runs. She asks if this requirement could be waived for Chilean students, whose travel does not include intercontinental flights. XBA expressed his reticence about making such an exception, but it was agreed that AKA and GMA would check the current implementation details before a decision is made.