30 years of Italian participation to ESO

Rome, July 2-3, 2012

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FOREWORD

On May 24th 1982 Italy joined ESO becoming the 8th Member State of this organization. In the past 30 years the participation of Italy in all of ESO endeavors has been substantial in all aspects: people, fundamental industrial contributions in the construction of telescopes and the infrastructures, collaboration with the institutes in the development of instrument components and on the science programs. The aim of the Symposium was to review critically these past achievements and discuss the Italian participation to future ESO projects.

I wish to personally thank all the participants to the meeting and the members of the SOC and the EWASS2012 LOC for their help in organizing this Symposium.

Vincenzo Mainieri