

"ASTROMETRY WITH SMALL TELESCOPES"

Bucharest, 21 - 23 October 2004

"The Future Development of the Ground-Based Astrometry" (FDGBA) was founded in 2000, during the XXIVth General Assembly in Manchester, UK, as working group of the Division 1.

It appeared as a consequence of the new state of astrometry after the success of Hipparcos mission.

As the Newsletter No.1 of the IAU Commission 8 announced, "The post-Hipparcos era has brought an element of uncertainty as to the goals and future programs for all of ground-based astrometry". The WG had as main objective to identify such programs and make assessment of the whole situation including available instrumentation. It has "to identify scientifically important programs that can be realized using ground-based astrometric or related observations, and to study what kind of modifications, upgrades or additions to the existing instruments should be performed in order to provide useful astronomical information with necessary accuracy, keeping in mind what the future astrometric satellites will contribute."

A final objective that we see for this working group is to identify programs that could be made on instruments that are either insufficiently used or working on projects that have no significant value for the present day astrometry. A major reason for this is that these instruments can be used as they are or with not too expensive modifications to teach students in astronomy how to use telescopes and in the same time to contribute in a significant way to astronomy.

The WG organised three international meetings (Munich 2001, Bucharest 2003, Sydney 2003). Its activity was prolonged until the next IAU GA (Prague, 2006).

Due to the sponsorship of UNESCO-ROSTE, FDGBA was able to organize a new meeting in Bucharest, 21 - 23 October 2004.

The main problems discussed were the following:

- Techniques and software on narrow-field CCD astrometry using ground-based telescopes;
- Observations and data processing of radio-stars, asteroids, mutual phenomena of Solar system bodies, KBO's;
- Theoretical and observational aspects concerning the dynamics of the Solar system;
- Contribution of ground-based astrometry to the improvement of celestial and local reference systems.

71 authors from Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece, France, FRY Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine, USA presented oral or poster communications on the above topics. Between them we should mention the EuroPlaNet program and Training in Astrometry. Around table closed the session. All the presentation will be published very soon in a special supplement of *Romanian Astronomical Journal*.

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