

ASTRO(2003)6
Paris, 9th April 2003

EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

-

ASTRONOMY WORKING GROUP

Recommendation on COROT

The Astronomy Working Group (AWG) at its 115th meeting held on 7-8 April 2003 at ESTEC, Noordwijk (NL), took note of the Review of the scientific programmes within CNES.

The AWG reaffirms the pioneering aspect and high scientific interest of the COROT mission in the way of telluric planet finding and asteroseismology, as already expressed in its previous recommendation, ASTRO(2000)19.

A formal agreement was signed between ESA and CNES in June 2001, whereby ESA contributes to COROT telescope optics and the use of test facilities. In addition, 25 Co-I groups in laboratories from 9 countries are providing other substantial contributions to the project.

The AWG therefore asks the Executive to reaffirm with CNES the importance of the timely implementation of the COROT mission within the agreed 2005 timeframe.