

The Board was pleased to receive the interim report from the ASAC on the three charges that had been sent to ASAC following the Board's June 2007 meeting. The proposal to hold a face to face meeting of the ASAC in Chile on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2008 was approved.

The Board noted that on the first charge – to assess the preparation of the ALMA software for early science – the ASAC had not found it possible to respond without holding a face to face meeting. The Board looked forward to receiving a full report on this topic at its next meeting (1-2 April 2008) so this report should be made available by 10<sup>th</sup> March at the latest.

On the second charge, relating to the correlator modes required for early science, the Board were happy to note that the ASAC had agreed a set of scientific priorities and identified the most appropriate modes for carrying out the relevant observations. This priority list will be followed by the Project. This item has therefore been fully discharged.

Regarding the third charge – the review of calibration plan and of the scientific aspects of the AIV and CSV plan – the Board was gratified to see that the ASAC had already provided detailed commentary on these plans with many questions, comments and suggestions. Clearly these topics need further discussion with the Project team. The Board anticipates that this will take place over the coming months so that an updated version of the plan can be presented, together with the ASAC's review of it, to the Board at its next meeting.

The first and third charges therefore remain in place. The Board expects to add a further item to the list of charges, which will relate to the planning for the further development of ALMA beyond the current construction project. The details of this charge, together with supporting materials, will be circulated as soon as they are available.