

planetary systems will finally become resolvable.

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The ESO Exhibition at the IAU General Assembly in Kyoto, Japan

Like at previous IAU General Assemblies, ESO maintained an information stand with up-to-date information about the organisation and the current status

of the VLT project. A scale model of the VLT was on display and the stand also featured daily screenings of ESO videos. Located in the Event Hall next to

the e-mail terminals, the 35-square-metre ESO stand quickly evolved into "a meeting place at the meeting", serving as a venue for many informal discussions as well as a contact point for ESO staff and a steady stream of visitors wishing to learn more about ESO's activities.

Other exhibitors included the Gemini Project, the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (including SUBARU), ROSAT, NRAO, ASP and NASDA (the Space Agency of Japan) as well as commercial exhibitors such as Carl Zeiss, Toshiba, Kluwer Academic Publishers, Cambridge University Press, etc.

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Figure 1

Figure 1: With the Emperor and the Empress in attendance, IAU President Prof. L. Woltjer opens the General Assembly.

Figure 2: ESO's stand was located between the National Observatory of Japan and NASDA, in the huge "Event Hall".

Figure 3: The ESO information stand – "a meeting place at the meeting".



Figure 2



Figure 3