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PLANETA TERRA – NOSSO DESTINO COMUM is the title of an international conference on ecology, which will be held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, under the auspices of the United Nations. Under the umbrella of this conference, a number of scientific events, conferences and exhibitions in other scientific fields, e.g. in medicine and astronomy, will take place.

As an early kick-off, ESO's travelling exhibition was opened in the planetarium by Marcelo Alencar, Mayor of the City of Rio, on May 2. Attending the opening ceremony were members of the diplomatic representations of ESO's member countries, officials from the City and State Governments, scientists, etc. Speeches were held by the Mayor, the director of the planetarium, A. Cobbett, and by Jorge Melnick of ESO, who, on the basis of astronomy, emphasized the need for fundamental research and international collaboration in science.

The exhibition was presented several times on nationwide TV and also in full-page articles in the leading Brazilian newspapers and magazines, and no



less than 3,000 visitors were registered during the first weekend.

The next stop of ESO's itinerant exhibition will be in Buenos Aires in July

this year on the occasion of the XXIst General Assembly of the International Astronomical Union.

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