



ALMA BOARD MEETING November 15-17, 2023

PUBLIC SUMMARY

The ALMA Board convened at SCO, between the 15 and 17 of November 2023, with the following attendees:

Board Chair	Toshikazu Onishi (EA)
Board Vice-Chair	Linda Tacconi (EU)
Board Members	Daniel Weselka (EU)
	Eduardo Ibar (CL)
	James Di Francesco (NA)
	Joe Pesce (NA)
	Karin Öberg (NA)
	Saku Tsuneta (EA)
	Tom Ray (EU)
	Tony Beasley (NA)
	Toru Yamada (EA)
	Xavier Barcons (EU)
Board Assessors	Andreas Kaufer (EU)
	Satoru Iguchi (EA)
Board Secretary	Catalina Margulis
JAO	Sean Dougherty (ALMA Director)
	Norikazu Mizuno (ALMA Deputy Director of Operations and Head of Engineering)
	John Carpenter (acting ALMA Deputy Director of Development and Observatory Scientist)
	Cristián Puentes (Head of Administration)
	Iván López (Health, Safety and Environmental Manager)
	Jorge Ibsen (Head of Computing)
	Juan Cortés (acting Head of Science Operations)
	Rafael Mena (Human Resources Manager)
	Sergio Martin (acting Head of Science Operations)
	Valeria Foncea (Education and Public Outreach Manager)
Executives	Adam Cohen (AUI President)

	Álvaro González (NAOJ ALMA Program Manager)
	Elizabeth Humphreys (ESO ALMA Programme Manager)
	Luis Chavarría (ESO Representative in Chile)
	Paulina Bocaz (AUI/NRAO Representative in Chile)
	Phil Jewell (NRAO ALMA Program Manager)
	Teruyuki Watanabe (NAOJ Representative in Chile)
ASAC Chair	Mario Tafalla*
Observers	Bruno Leibundgut (EU)
	Chin-Fei Lee (NA)
	Jeff Neff (NA)
	María Diaz-Trigo (EU)
	Martin Zwaan (EU)*
	Misato Fukagawa (EA)*
	Takafumi Kojima (EA)

*Attended remotely

PUBLIC SUMMARY

The ALMA Board held its November 2023 meeting, at the Santiago Central Office (SCO), Chile.

The Board's Chair, Toshikazu Onishi, welcomed all Board members, assessors and attendees.

In addition to other matters during the meeting, the Board:

1. Reviewed the status of ALMA
2. Reviewed the status of Cycle 9 and 10
3. Discussed about ways to increase high-frequency observations with ALMA
4. Received the ASAC report from the ASAC Chair
5. Reviewed the status of the Wideband Sensitivity Upgrade
6. Approved the Band 8v2 receiver upgrade – Phase 1
7. Approved the OSF Correlator Room – Phase 1
8. Approved the Next Generation Observing Tool (NGOT)
9. Approved the 2024 ALMA Budget
10. Reviewed the status of ALMA Site Use Agreements and non-ALMA Projects
11. Approved the ALMA Director's self-appraisal
12. Approved the 2024 goals for the ALMA Director and Key Personnel
13. Appointed 5 new ASAC members

ALMA Overview and Cycle 9/10 update

The Board noted the presentation given by the ALMA Director, regarding the status of ALMA, including:

- Hiring of Norikazu Mizuno as Deputy Director of Operations, effective on July 1, 2023 and of Álvaro González as Deputy Director of Development, effective on January 2, 2024.
- General outcome of Cycle 9, with observing hours being the 2nd highest in ALMA history, even with a total loss of observing time of 641 hours due to the cyber-attack of 2022.
- Other JAO considerations, including Health, Safety, Security, and Environment – related matters.

The Board noted the Cycle 9/10 update presentation given by the Deputy Director of Operations, including:

- Key achievements and operational highlights in Cycle 9
- New capabilities available and on-going challenges in Cycle 10
- Reprioritization of activities because of the on-going work related to the Wideband Sensitivity Upgrade (WSU)

Scientific Matters

The Board noted the presentations given by the Observatory Scientist, the Chair of the ASAC, and the Chair of the Board's Science Committee regarding:

- Recent scientific highlights
- Cycle-10 proposal review process
- High-frequency observations with ALMA
- Assessment of ALMA's scientific capabilities, system performance and of scientific outcomes

After deliberation of the range of science expertise and other requirements, the Board approved the appointment or reappointment of the following five members to serve on the ASAC for a three-year term, starting January 1st, 2024 until December 31st, 2026:

- NA: (i) Sara Ellison; (ii) Sean Andrews; and (iii) Kazushi Sakamoto.
- EA: Yuri Aikawa.
- EU: Ágnes Kóspál

Development Matters

The Board noted the presentation given by the newly appointed ALMA Deputy Director of Development (in transition) regarding the status of the WSU, including:

- WSU highlights
- WSU Planning status
- WSU key milestones

- Regional Development updates

Financial Matters

The ALMA Board noted the report of the ALMA Budget Committee on the 2023 budget execution and financial results and projections to the end of the year.

Finally, subject to the FY2024 budget appropriation process in the USA and Japan and the approval by ESO Council, the Board approved the proposed 2024 ALMA Operations Budget.