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## FOREWORD

La construcción y puesta a punto del Gran Telescopio Canarias (GTC) es un reto organizativo y tecnológico que dará muchos quebraderos de cabeza pero también un toque de prestigio a los centros de investigación y a las industrias implicadas. Una vez operativo, será un telescopio muy competitivo que permitirá investigar el Cosmos más profundamente. Para poder explotar bien esta gran máquina desde el principio, es imprescindible tener muy afinados los primeros programas de observación. El objetivo de esta reunión científica es proponer ideas y discutirlas en relación a la ciencia que se quiere y se puede hacer con el GTC. Resulta imprescindible el pensarse juntos todo ello para que la puesta en servicio de este telescopio repercuta de inmediato en el avance de nuestro conocimiento del Universo.

Francisco Sánchez  
Director  
Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias

The building and commissioning of the Gran Telescopio Canarias (GTC) is an organizational and technological challenge that will doubtless cause many headaches but will also confer prestige on the research centers and industries involved. When it comes into operation, the GTC will be a highly competitive telescope that will enable us to probe the Cosmos more deeply. In order to be able to gain the maximum possible advantage from this great machine right at the beginning, the first observing programmes must be very carefully planned. The aim of this scientific meeting is to put forward and discuss ideas regarding the science that needs to be and can be done with the GTC. It is vital we think this through together so that the coming into service of this telescope results immediately in the advance of our knowledge of the Universe.