

RESOLUTIONS

(1) This Symposium recognizes the inadequacy of the existing optical astrometric data to meet modern requirements for precision positions and proper motions. It therefore urges that the great accuracy of radio positions and the potentiality of new optical and space techniques should be fully exploited. Both absolute and differential observations are necessary, and it is particularly important that observations in the southern hemisphere should not be allowed to lag behind those in the north as they do at present in both optical and radio astrometry.

(2) This Symposium urges as the first priority the compilation by 1980 of an FK5 catalogue. The new reference frame must be extended to faint stars and extragalactic objects. This requires the vigorous continuation and, in fact, completion, especially in the southern hemisphere, of current programmes of photographic astrometry and, in addition, the development and exploitation of new photographic, radio and space techniques.

(3) This Symposium notes the existence of the Working Party established by Commission 40 to draw up a list of suitable objects for positional calibration of radio observations and urges co-operation between it and Commissions 8 and 24 to ensure as complete an integration as possible of the radio and optical astrometric fundamental programmes.