

## WORKING GROUP ON ECLIPSES

*(GROUPE DE TRAVAIL POUR ÉCLIPSES)*

**CHAIR: J. Pasachoff**

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### 1. Duties and History

The Working Group on Eclipses of Division II (Sun and Heliosphere) has as its task the coordination of solar eclipse efforts, particularly making liaisons with customs and other officials of countries through which the path of totality passes and providing educational information about the safe observation of eclipses for the wide areas of the Earth in which total or partial eclipses are visible. During the past triennium, it dealt with total eclipses in 2001 in southern Africa and in 2002 in southern Africa and South Australia as well as annular eclipses in Costa Rica (2001), Mexico (2002), and Iceland and Scotland (2003). Frederic Clette (Belgium) and Francis Podmore (Zimbabwe) were additional members. The work is coordinated with that of the Program Group on Public Information at the Times of Eclipses of IAU Commission 46 on Education and Development ([www.eclipses.info](http://www.eclipses.info)). Our URL is [www.totalsolareclipse.net](http://www.totalsolareclipse.net).

### 2. The Next Triennium

During the coming triennium, there are total solar eclipses over Antarctica (2003 November 23) and Africa/Greece/Turkey/Asia (2006 March 29), with a hybrid annular/total eclipse with totality over the Pacific Ocean (2005 April 8). In recognition of the path of the 2006 eclipse, Atila Ozguc (Turkey) has been added to the roster. On 2006 March 29, totality will cross Brazil (Natal at sunrise), Africa (Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, Niger, Chad, Libya, Egypt), an eastern Greek island, Turkey, Russia, the top of Caspian Sea, and Kazakhstan. Partial phases will be visible from all of Europe, Asia to mid-Mongolia and Bangladesh, Africa except for the part south of a line drawn from Namibia to Somalia, and the western trip of Brazil. The maximum duration will be 4 minutes 7 seconds.

### 3. Further Future Events

The following triennium will have total eclipses on August 1, 2008, and July 22, 2009, both mainly visible in Asia, the latter occurring just four days prior to the I.A.U. General Assembly in Rio de Janeiro.

Jay M. Pasachoff  
*Chair of the Working Group*