



Australian Square Kilometre Array Office

Square Kilometre Array Project Update



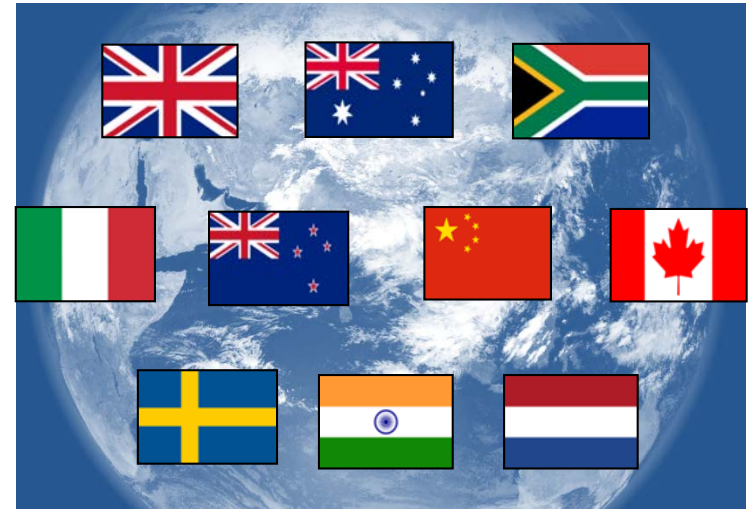
David Luchetti
Project Director
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Content

- **International update**
- **International treaty negotiations**
- **Transition arrangements**
- **Domestic update**
- **What are the Challenges?**
- **Next Steps**

International Update

- **10 member countries**
- **New members?**
- **HQ construction started**
- **South Africa constructing Meerkat**



International Update

- **Pre-construction phase ongoing**
 - **PDR's completed**
- **Cost reduction exercise underway**
- **Convention negotiations close to finalisation**
- **Impact of Brexit**

International treaty negotiations

- **Three tiers of documents**
- **Tier 1 documents need to be agreed by governments**
- **Other documents need to be understood before signing of Tier 1 documents take place**
 - **procurement, IP and technical annex**
- **Initialled then signed and then ratified**

Transition Arrangements

- **SKA Observatory created late 2018**
 - **requires five members**
- **Transition arrangements being developed**
 - **wind-up company, transfer assets, etc**
- **Preparatory Council to run in parallel with SKA Organisation Board**
 - **for how long?**
- **Key first meeting of SKA Observatory Council**

Domestic

- **Three ministers, two federal governments and a change of state government**
 - **project continues to enjoy support**
- **Community rep on SAC**
- **SKA Fellowships continuing in 2017**
- **Site establishment activities underway**
 - **heritage, lease, environment, etc**
- **SKA1 ILUA negotiations commenced**

Impact of the SKA on Wajarri land

- **SKA1 will directly impact about 1% of Boolardy**
- **The antennas will be grouped into stations which will sit lightly on the ground**
- **Cables will be underground to minimise visual disturbance.**
- **SKA telescope infrastructure will be removed at the end of the project's life.**
- **Opportunity to rehabilitate the land.**

What are the Challenges?

- **Cost**
- **Schedule**
- **Radio quiet**
- **Science**

Next Steps for ASKAO

- **Finalising the Indigenous Land Use Agreement**
- **Finalising the Convention and associated documents**
- **Obtaining Government approval**



Questions?