



**Memorandum of Understanding between
the Australian Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
and
the Italian Ministry for Economic Development
on
Bilateral Cooperation to Facilitate the Implementation of the
Square Kilometre Array (SKA)**

The Australian Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research and the Italian Ministry for Economic Development (hereafter referred to as “the Participants”);

Recognising the need for bilateral and multilateral collaboration to bring about the construction and operation of the Square Kilometre Array (SKA), and the value of the scientific and technological benefits which such collaboration will provide for SKA funding participants and for the global scientific community more broadly;

Acknowledging the willingness of the Participants to work with all potential SKA partner countries, and enterprises based in those countries, to implement the SKA;

With the aim of promoting efficient collaboration between relevant public and private bodies in Australia and Italy; and

Desirous of enhancing the mutual benefits to be derived from collaboration between the two countries as equal partners

Have reached the following understanding:

1 Principles

Consistent with their national legislation and international obligations, the Participants support the development and strengthening of cooperation between relevant research bodies and enterprises based in the two countries for the realisation of the SKA Project.

2 General objectives of the cooperation

The Participants will endeavour to support and promote cooperation between their Government departments, universities, scientific and technological research centres, and relevant enterprises of the two countries competent in the implementation of the SKA Project.

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3 Implementation

The Participants are responsible for the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.

The Participants note that, in order to achieve the objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Italian Ministry for Economic Development will make use of the *Istituto per il Commercio con l'Estero* (ICE - Italian Trade Commission).

4 Working Group

A Working Group including representatives nominated by the Participants from scientific and technological research centres and relevant enterprises, will be created by the Participants to implement this Memorandum of Understanding.

The Joint Chairs of the Working Group will be senior officials of the Participants.

If considered appropriate, the Participants may establish within the Working Group sub-groups for specific matters mutually identified by the Parties.

Meetings of the Working Group will be held as decided from time to time by the Parties.

5 Duties of the Working Group

The Working Group will organise scientific and technical seminars, visits, business briefings and networking events aimed at promoting bilateral collaboration to advance the overall SKA program.

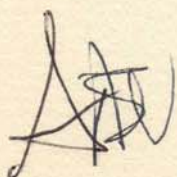
6 Consultation

The Participants will use reasonable efforts to amicably resolve any disputes relating to the interpretation and implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.

7 Status and amendment

This Memorandum is not intended to create binding obligations under international law, affect existing obligations under international law, or create obligations under the domestic law of the Participants.

This Memorandum of Understanding may be modified and supplemented by an arrangement in writing between the Participants.



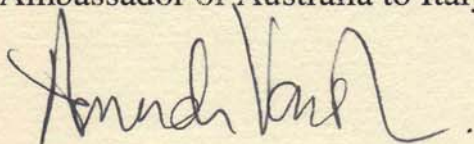
8 Coming into effect

This Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect on the day of its signature by both Participants and will remain in effect for three years. Unless one of the Participants has provided notification in writing of its intention to terminate the Memorandum of Understanding at least six months prior to the expiry of this three year period, the Memorandum of Understanding will continue in effect until six months after the date on which one Participant provides such notification

Done in *Rome*... on *10 July 2009*. in two originals, each in the English and Italian languages, all texts being equally authentic.

For the Australian Department of
Innovation, Industry, Science and
Research

H.E. Amanda Vanstone
Ambassador of Australia to Italy



For the Italian Ministry
for Economic Development

Hon. Adolfo Urso
Deputy Minister for Economic
Development

