

# Arrangement to Cooperate

## on Astronomy towards the scientific challenges of the next generation of instruments

### 1. Participants

The Participants in this Arrangement to Cooperate ("Arrangement") are

- **Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation**, represented by CSIRO Astronomy and Space Science, located at Limestone Avenue, Campbell, ACT, Australia (CSIRO), and
- **Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica**, located at Viale del Parco Mellini 84, 00136 Rome, Italy (INAF).

### 2. Purpose

This Arrangement confirms the intent of the Participants to increase collaborative efforts relating to the development of scientific collaboration in astronomy and astrophysics towards the challenges of the next generation of large research facilities particularly the Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder project (ASKAP).

### 3. Scope

3.1 The Participants mutually recognise the benefits of increased bilateral collaboration and the value of the scientific and technological benefits which such collaboration will provide to the scientific communities of both the Participants.

3.2 The Participants also mutually recognise the benefits of increased bilateral collaboration towards the operation and scientific output of ASKAP and the flow on benefits to the global scientific community.

3.3 The Participants recognise such cooperation, as set out in the 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), signed in Rome on 10 July 2009.

3.4 This Arrangement does not affect any funding, whether national or otherwise.

### 4. Activities foreshadowed by this Arrangement

The Participants will cooperate by way of personnel exchanges between their organisations to benefit ASKAP developments towards the construction of large-scale facilities, such as the SKA.

These exchanges will be based on considerations of equality, mutual interests and those which best benefit the intended projects. These exchanges may include:

- i) scientific cooperation for further joint research related to the ASKAP Survey Science Projects;
- ii) scientific cooperation towards the commissioning and first-light science with ASKAP,
- iii) scientific cooperation in activities coordinated by the SKA Project Office to refine the SKA science case;
- iv) design and technology development projects on ASKAP towards both SKA,
- v) a jointly hosted Italian-Australian workshop, on a topic of mutual interest, to focus on science and technologies in astronomy, particularly for the SKA.

## 5. Term

5.1 This Arrangement comes into effect on the date on which it is signed by the Participants.

5.2 This Arrangement will remain in effect until 31 December 2015.

5.3 This Arrangement may be amended at any time by mutual consent of both Participants.

5.4 Either Participant may terminate this Arrangement by providing 90 days' notice in writing to the other participant.

## 6. Record of Intentions

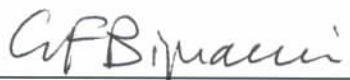
6.1 This Arrangement embodies the understandings of the Participants and does not create legally binding rights or obligations, including in relation to the exchange of confidential information or intellectual property. In particular, the Participants do not intend that this Arrangement will in any way bind the Participants to enter into any project or research agreements or to form a joint venture, a partnership, a company or to enter into any other form of commercial agreement. It serves only as a record of the Participants' commitment to explore such possibilities as contemplated by this Arrangement.

6.2 The Participants:

- (a) have no obligations to each other unless and until formal contracts under their respective domestic laws are signed; and
- (b) will not be liable for any loss or damage the other Participant (or any of its affiliates, employees, agents, contractors or collaborators) may suffer as a result of any failure to, or delay in, entering into formal agreements.

Signed for and on behalf of:

**Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica**

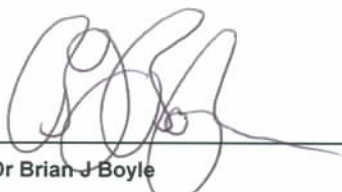
  
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Prof. Giovanni Fabrizio Bignami  
President,  
INAF

Date: Feb 22 2012

Signed for and on behalf of:

**Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation**

  
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Dr Brian J Boyle  
SKA Director  
CSIRO Astronomy and Space Science

Date: Feb 22 2012