



## 2017 SKA Engineering Meeting

12–16 June 2017

Rotterdam, the Netherlands

[#SKAengcon17](#)



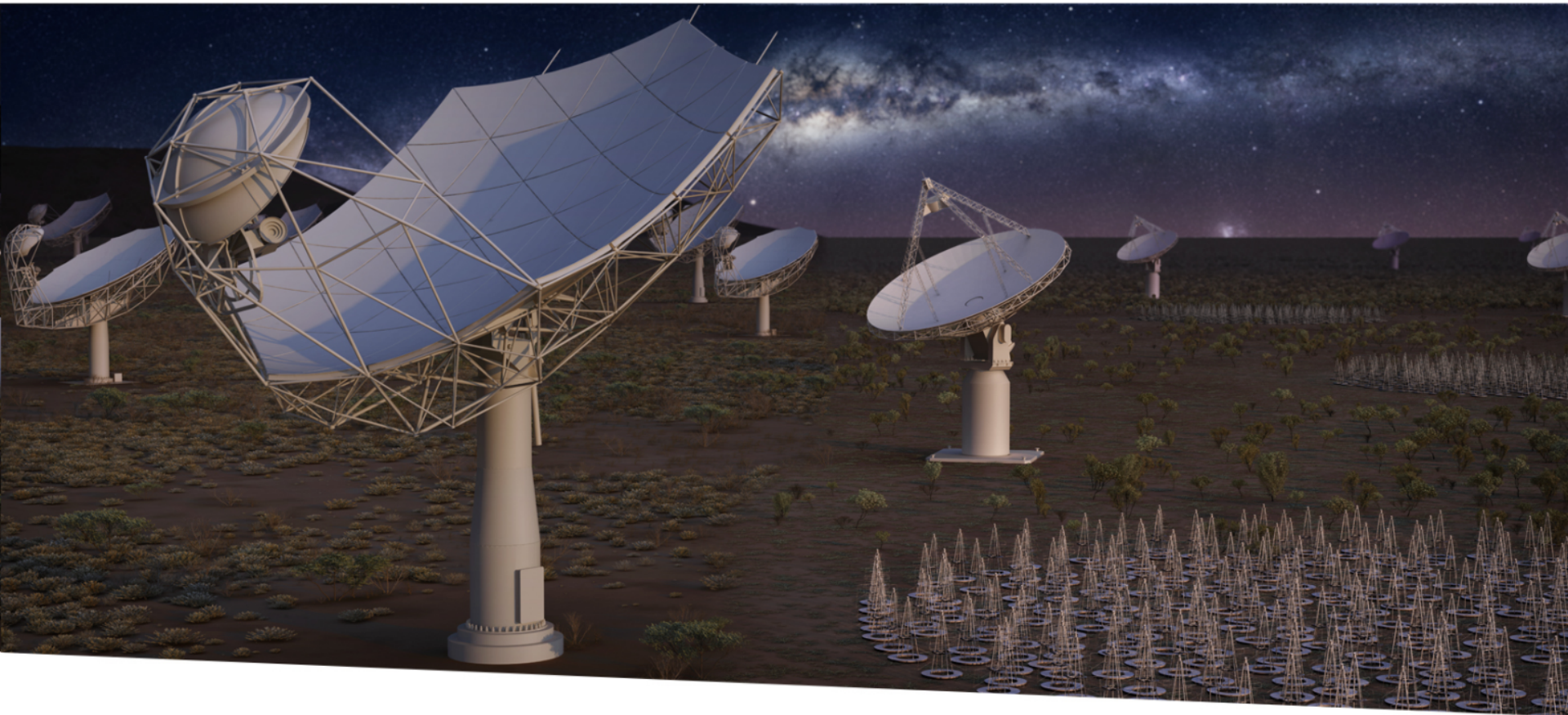
Netherlands Organisation  
for Scientific Research

**ASTRON**

Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy



# End of Conference



**SQUARE KILOMETRE ARRAY**

Exploring the Universe with the world's largest radio telescope

**Alistair McPherson**

15 June 2017



# Statistics

- 306 Delegates
- 1560 meals
- 4000 cups of coffee
- 265 people on boat (plus one baby)
- 25 Plenary Sessions
- 85 Planned Meetings
- 13 video conferences
- 30 Unplanned Meetings
- 1085 slides uploaded

*Feedback requested to improve future meetings*



# Outcomes

- Fantastic amount of work going on
- Final Race towards CDRs
- Focus on CDR Target
- Maintain Momentum
- Cost Control work is being managed



# Successes

- Over 300 Delegates
- Many Discussions and Networking
- Progress made in many areas – into the detail
- Some ICDs actually agreed
- Sufficient Coffee & Tea – Mint Tea fantastic!
- Great welcome drinks
- Excellent Conference Dinner
- No one complained about the wifi

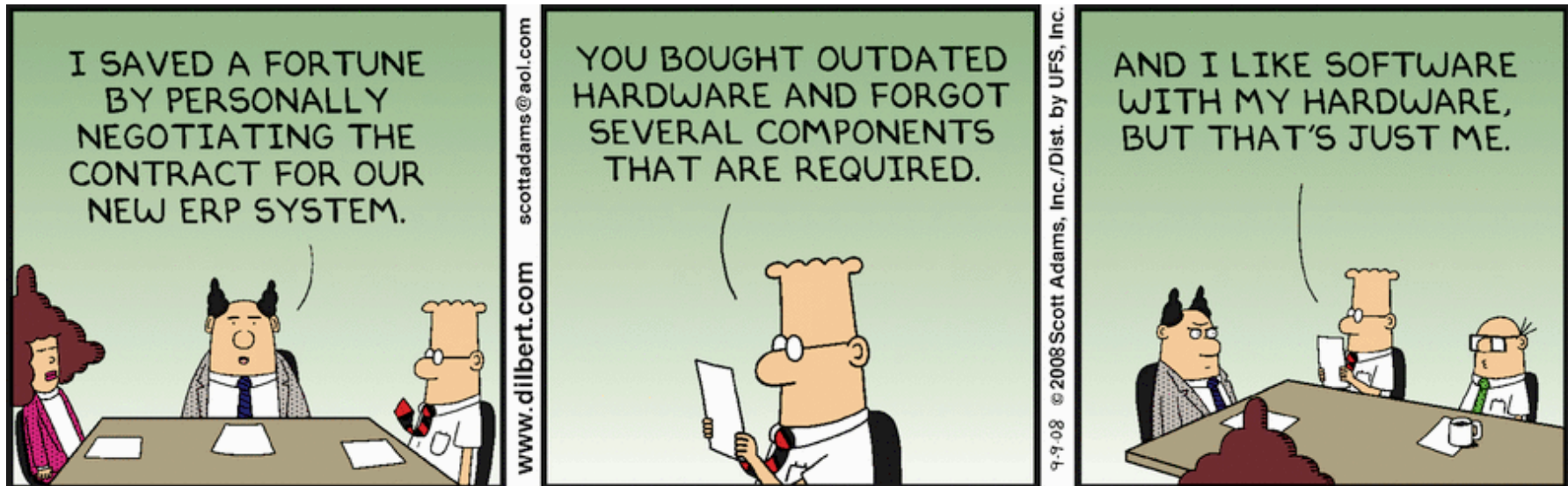


# Failures

- Clashes of meetings - too many parallel sessions
- Some meetings too restricted – in people's views
- Coffee not always available...
- Operation of Automatic Escalators
- Too few toilets.... a map would have helped
- Gary Davis' snoring woke people up
- Man-overboard drills weren't tested on ship...



# Cost Control





# Baseline Definitions



## Design Baseline

- The Design Baseline of SKA-1 is a design that meets the full set of Level 1 System Requirements, which was in turn scoped to meet the Level 0 Science Requirements in order to provide transformational science capabilities. This includes all infrastructure, instrumentation and computing installations and defines relevant interfaces. This is the design that the Consortia continue to develop in detail and which will go forward to CDR.

## Deployment Baseline

- The Deployment Baseline of SKA-1 shall be defined in the Construction Proposal. It will include as much of the Design Baseline as can be afforded at that time; the assumption being that €674M (2016 Euros) will be available. Scientific assessment of the proposed deployment baseline demonstrates that the SKA Observatory will, largely, deliver transformational science capabilities. Re-instatement of the omitted capabilities, up to the full restoration of the Design Baseline, is planned, either during or after the construction phase, should additional funding become available.





- Schedule
  - We to continue to work against a realistic, although tight, schedule.
- Cost Control
  - The costs have got to be controlled and we need to deliver against a Cost Cap. Sometimes this implies personal sacrifices.
- Critical Design Reviews
  - Need to be complete and coherent
- Maintain Momentum!



# Summary



- Overall progress is very positive:
  - Technical progress moving well, dealing with challenges
  - Clear that a transformational SKA1 can be built within the cost-cap; additional partner nations will bring additional science capability.
  - Must continue to drive costs down. Schedule is a major concern.
  - Precursors/pathfinders being delivered; delivering science
  - Route to an IGO now appears firm thanks to continuous support from governments
  - HQ construction started
  - Real money being spent now by governments, real commitment being made at political level
- SKA only possible through the drive, enthusiasm and support of the science and engineering community and governments of partner nations.





# Organisation Committee



Andrea Casson (Co-Chair)

Joe Diamond

Paul Furness

Sarah Lamb

Altomese Stevenson

Truss van der Brink-Havings

Carin Lubbers-Leering









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