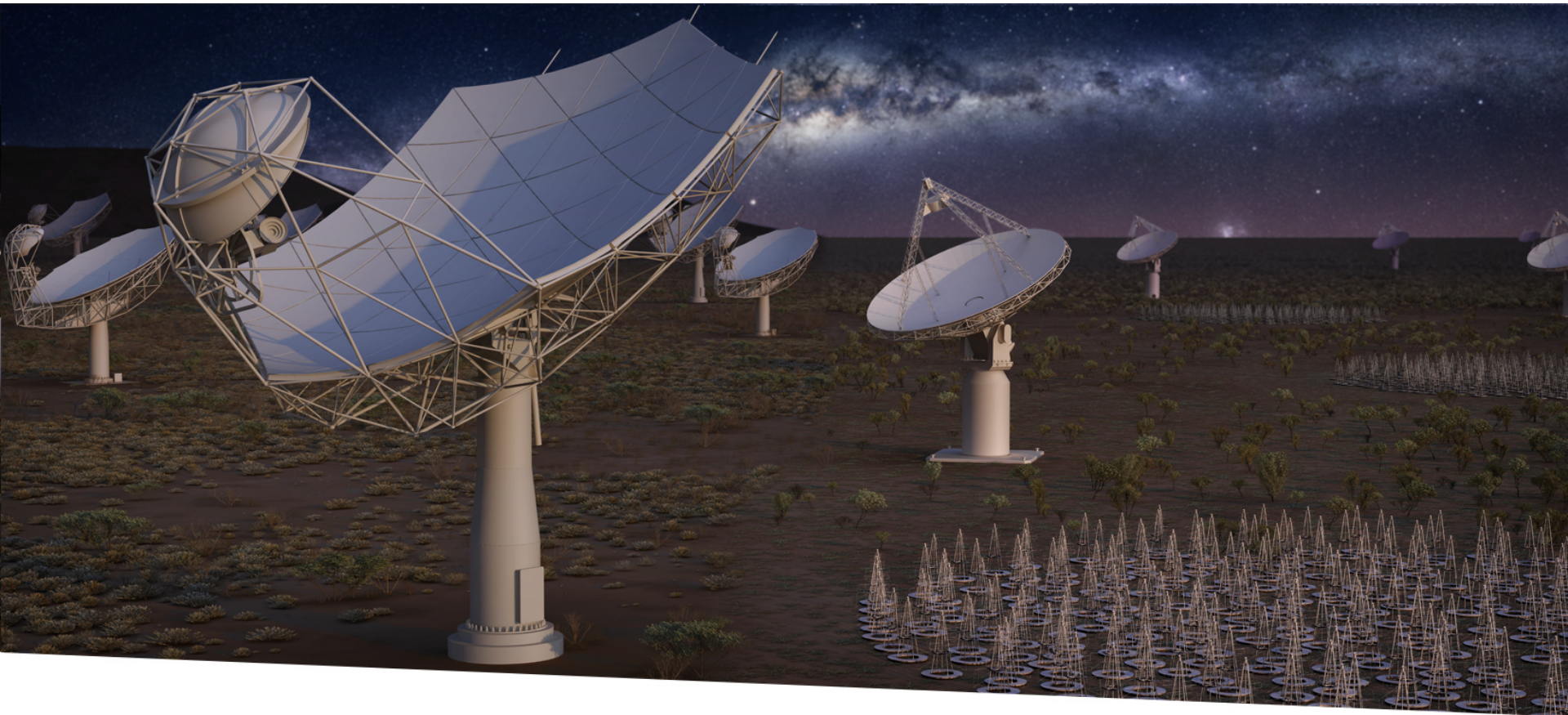


# D-G's summary



**SQUARE KILOMETRE ARRAY** Philip Diamond, Director-General

Exploring the Universe with the world's largest radio telescope

15<sup>th</sup> June 2017



## 2017 SKA Engineering Meeting

12–16 June 2017

Rotterdam, the Netherlands

[#SKAengcon17](#)



Netherlands Organisation  
for Scientific Research

**ASTRON**

Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy

# My personal view



- Excellent progress on the detailed design across consortia – as it should be at this stage of the project.
- There is still some work to be done in pulling the overall system together.
  - Partly this is due to the uncertainty injected by the cost control project
  - Significant work required.
- The focus now is necessarily on the CDRs, as it should be. I do not want us to have Delta-CDRs; let us and you ensure consortia are fully prepared.



# Cost Control

- Has been difficult to inject the cost control project into the work at this stage
- However, has been a very effective tool
  - Enabled reduction of construction estimate to be reduced by €111M; more to come.
  - Maturity of cost estimates has increased
  - Development of capability reduction options, most of which can be reinstated with additional funds.
  - Demonstrated to the Board and governments that SKA has cost as a focus – excellent time to do so prior to IGO
- Still some uncertainties as a few technical decisions are to be taken after re-examination of baseline design.
- We will endeavour to take those decisions as quickly as possible.

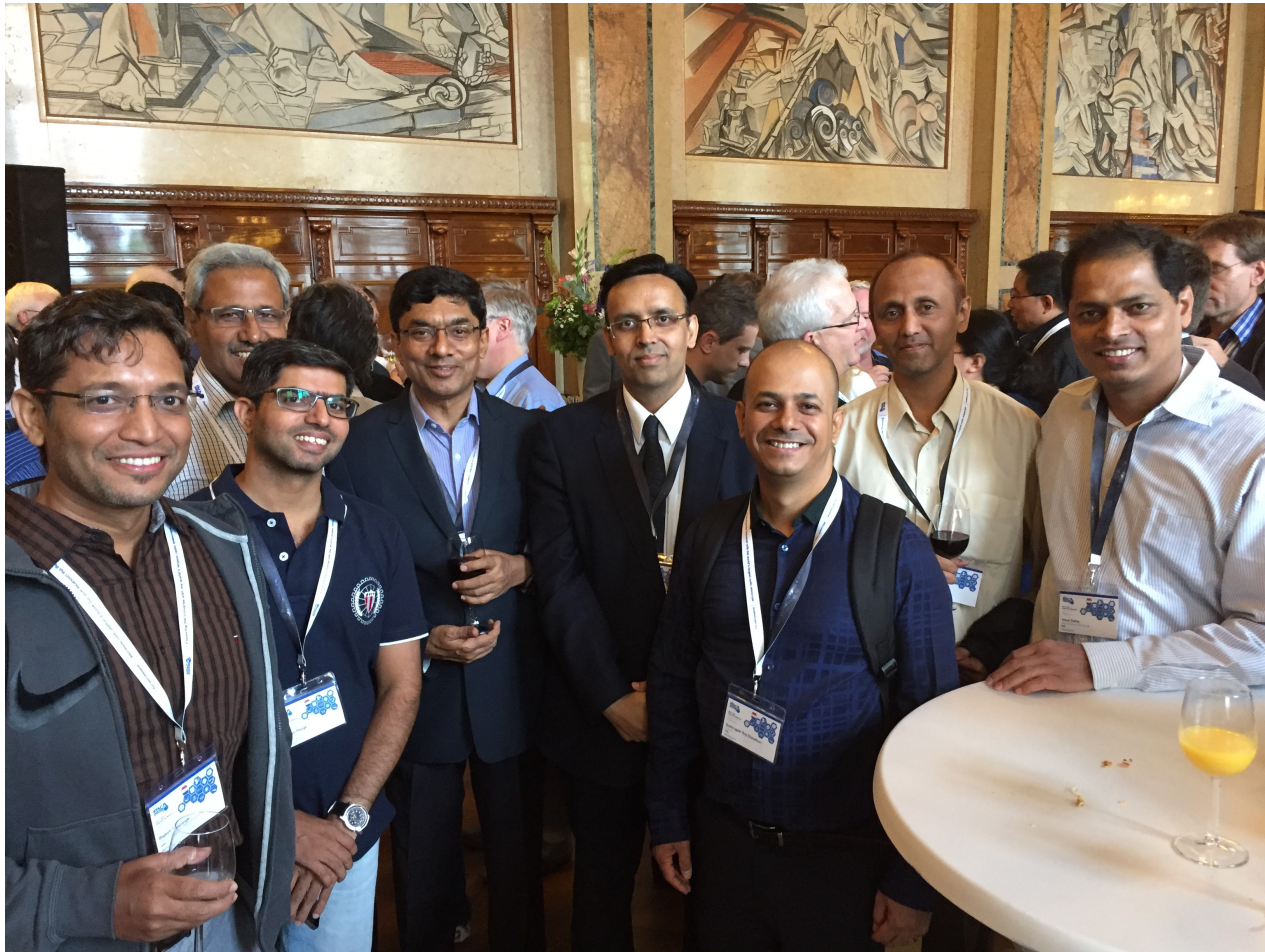


# Conference dinner





# Mr. Vijay Kumar Jaiswal, First Secretary Indian Embassy





## Mr. ZHANG Xinmin, First Secretary of the Science and Technology Office, Chinese Embassy



# Mr. Andrea Perugini, Italian Ambassador





# SKA Programme Director



SKA Programme Director  
Rev D

**SKA ORGANISATION  
BASED AT JODRELL BANK, UK  
SKA Programme Director  
Application deadline: 31 July 2017**

**Competitive Salary and Flexible Benefits**

**Job Title:** SKA Programme Director

**Reference:** ProgDir/01

**Reports To:** Director-General

**Location:** SKA HQ, Jodrell Bank, Cheshire, UK

**Closing Date for applications:** Closing date for receipt of completed applications is 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017. For details of how to apply please see below.

**Submission of applications:** Email to [jobs@skatelescope.org](mailto:jobs@skatelescope.org)



# 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.



# SQUARE KILOMETRE ARRAY

Exploring the Universe with the world's largest radio telescope

