

## SWG Chairs Telecon 14-Nov-2017

Minutes by Jeff Wagg

### Participants:

SWG: Mark Sargent, Tao An, Andrea Possenti, George Heald, Gianni Bernardi, Garrelt Mellema, Richard Battye, Mario Santos, Willem van Straten, Lourdes Verdes-Montenegro, Sarah Blyth, Cormac Reynolds, Fernando Camilo, Rossella Cassano, Laura Wolz, Ann Mao, Françoise Combes, Eduard Kontar, Divya Oberoi.

Apologies: Doug Johnstone, Izaskun Jimenez-Serra, Erik Rosolowsky

SKAO: Robert Braun, Anna Bonaldi, Evan Keane, Jeff Wagg

### Intro:

RB: - Many new co-chairs beginning, welcome to all! Many thanks to those who are transitioning off.

- Solar WG, and high energy cosmic particle chairs will stay on given that they have started only recently.
- Natasha will co-chair from Feb.

### Schedule:

- Today I will bring you all up to speed on some recent science and engineering planning
  - shown in the first slide shows array assembly releases. Number of stations (LOW)/antennas (MID) and when they will be available.
  - slides are available online but dates are from the AIV documentation
  - Time C0 is the date when the first construction contracts will be awarded (currently Q1 2020)
  - AA (array assembly) is when releases are available and some engineering commissioning has taken place
  - slide 2 shows the preparatory activities are ongoing
  - This includes data and calibration challenges, likely beginning middle 2018 and annually thereafter
  - other items on the list include commissioning and science verification activities and tentative dates
  - in the case of science verification the anticipation is that collecting area and correlator capabilities will be available. we would issue a call for targets of interest and these data would then be made public. Intermittent campaigns.
  - Robert Laing is working on layout that corresponds to each AA as part of the commissioning plan
- 
- We are also expecting to offer shared risk observations. This would mean observations would not be repeated if data were bad
  - Following this we will offer 12 months of normal PI observing followed by KSP projects (see slides)
  - we anticipate a coordination workshop followed by about one year of resourcing activities for KSP teams

Santos: Is one year enough time to obtain sufficient resources?

RB: This is why we are soliciting your feedback on this plan. Please send.

- Next slide is a summary of schedule and how all of this is expected to fit together. Takes a long time to build big facilities

Lourdes: Do KSPs start before normal observing

RB: PI proposals do get scheduled earlier, need time to understand the system before beginning KSP projects

Gianni: asked a question (cutting out, hard to understand)

RB: These KSP meetings are meant to provide a forum to facilitate possible KSP collaborations. There are no formal KSPs yet, there will be a competitive call for proposals. Collaborations would be great, but it will be an open call and competition.

Gianni: How will this message propagate around the science community?

RB: The document describing the schedule will be distributed to chairs this week, please forward to your SWGs.

- Next slide is the integrated schedule along with policy activities, engineering activities (CDRs, etc.).

Summary of recent activities

- important activity in Spain last week - Lourdes?

Lourdes: We had an important meeting between the particle physics and SKA communities. Two days long - aimed to trigger discussions between groups. Had the secretary of state and president of CSIC

RB: Board meeting in Bologna chaired by new chair - C. Cesarsky

- discussed budget which was approved for office 2018

- construction costs were discussed, a couple of consortia given cost caps

- costings are becoming more stable, an external review is scheduled

- also discussed the bridge between pre-construction and construction. After CDR activities most consortia dissolve which was always the intent. Leaves a gap before construction, but we have polled our consortia to determine who are the key people that might be required to bridge that gap.

- Board would also like to see basic production hardware on site in array configurations that can be used for risk mitigation. More detailed proposal will be put to them at next board meeting

- Finally updates from guests were given at the board meeting, including Spain who may join in Q1 2018. France also expresses a strong hope of joining.

Santos: what about Portugal?

RB: there is substantial interest, but this has not yet progressed to fruition. A current priority is demonstrating sufficient grass roots support for the project.

Santos: will talk to my colleagues in Portugal.

RB: there will be a cosmology session at EWASS 2018. Next KSP workshop will be at SKA HQ, Sept 2018. Hope to use the new building but backup venue on site has been arranged.

Please provide your desires for this KSP meeting

Lourdes: please distribute the slides in advance for next meeting.

RB: yes, we will do this.

Mark Sargent: Regarding the slide showing data challenges, how much SDP information will be given during this early phase. Will any SDP pipelines be available.

RB: There are unlikely to be SDP pipelines released early with SDP architecture. The hardware will only be available on-site while the requirements for SKA regional centres are still under development. AA2 onwards would have first components of SDP. Earlier activities would include calibration algorithms, beam calibration and all activities that support KSP readiness preparation.

Garrelt: Suggested theme for science meeting - 'new methods, new science' such as intensity mapping data mining, etc

RB: very interesting proposal, will try and flesh it out a bit more.

Lourdes: can slides be distributed beyond working groups?

RB: Unless I say otherwise, all of this material is completely public.

-end-