



## **Square Kilometre Array Program**

### **Terms of Reference for the Membership Committee (MC)**

**Version 0.3, 29 July 2008**

The Membership Committee (MC) will be a Standing Committee of the SKA Science and Engineering Committee (SSEC) charged with providing advice to the SSEC on the Membership of the SSEC. The MC will be supported in its work by the SKA Program Development Office (SPDO) that will provide Secretariat functions.

Members of the MC will have a variety of engineering and astronomical backgrounds, and an appropriately broad geographic distribution. Members of the MC will be appointed by the SSEC for terms of up to two years, with the opportunity for renewal.

The MC will report at each SSEC meeting and, where appropriate, at interim telecons, with motivated recommendations on SSEC membership. The MC will endeavour to match its reporting schedule to provide the most timely information at scheduled meetings of the SSEC.

Specifically the MC are asked to provide advice on:

- The appropriate number of Members that any Party to the SKA Collaboration agreement may have at SSEC meetings. [Refer I.1 in the SKA Collaboration Agreement]
- The appropriateness of any proposal to become a Party to the collaboration agreement [Refer I.1 in the SKA Collaboration Agreement]
- Following association or disassociation of any Participant in the Collaboration Agreement, provide advice on the subsequent Membership levels of the remaining Parties to the SKA Collaboration Agreement [Refer I.2 in the SKA Collaboration Agreement]

The MC will provide strategic advice to the SSEC on growing the international partnership. This will include advice on:

- Potential parties that may be approached by the SSEC with a view to becoming Parties to the SKA Collaboration Agreement
- The appropriate initial membership level for any potential party.
- The appropriateness of observer status being conferred for any specific SSEC meeting on any such potential party to the SKA Collaboration Agreement
- Any restructuring of the SSEC membership to accommodate any resulting significant growth in its membership.