

## DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

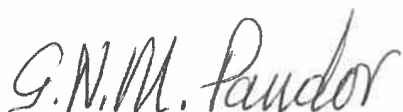
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28 JULY 2017

**NOTICE TO WITHDRAW THE DECLARATION OF THE HARTEBEESTHOEK RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY (HartRAO) AS A NATIONAL RESEARCH FACILITY IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION ACT, 1998**

I, Grace Naledi Mandisa Pandor, Minister of Science and Technology, hereby withdraw the declaration of the Hartebeesthoek Radio Astronomy Observatory (HartRAO) as a national research facility under the National Research Foundation (NRF).

HartRAO, together with other radio astronomy activities in the country, including the MeerKAT, the Karoo Array Telescope (KAT-7), the African Very Long Baseline Interferometry Network (AVN) and international radio astronomy experiments in the Square Kilometre Array (SKA), has been incorporated into the newly declared South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO), which is a national facility under the control of the NRF. SARAO will manage all current and future radio astronomy activities in the country.

**MRS GNM PANDOR, MP****MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY****NOTICE TO DECLARE THE SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY (SARAO) AS A NATIONAL FACILITY IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION ACT, 1998**

I, Grace Naledi Mandisa Pandor, Minister of Science and Technology, hereby declare the South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO) as a national facility in terms of the National Research Foundation Act, 1998 (Act No.23 of 1998).

The SARAO incorporates the MeerKAT, the Karoo Array Telescope (KAT-7), the African Very Long Baseline Interferometry Network (AVN), the Hartebeesthoek Radio Astronomy Observatory (HartRAO), and international radio astronomy experiments in the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) site as a single observatory under the National Research Foundation. All future South African radio astronomy activities, including those in the SKA-1 MID and subsequent phases of the SKA will be managed through SARAO.



**MRS GNM PANDOR, MP**  
**MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**