

To the attention of Ms Chiara Ferrari SKA-France Coordinator Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur

Subject: Support of NVIDIA Corporation to SKA-France Coordination, for the participation of France in the giant radiotelescope SKA international project

To whom it may concern :

At NVIDIA, we specialize in markets in which visual computing and accelerated computing platforms are important. NVIDIA hardware and software have been broadly adopted for High Performance Computing (HPC), Big Data analytics and Deep Learning, a new computing paradigm from the world of artificial intelligence.

The Square Kilometer Array (SKA) is a major project of ground-based astronomy in the world, if not the largest, and its impact extends far beyond astronomy. SKA represents one of the biggest Big Data challenges worldwide and requires substantial innovation and technological breakthroughs in key areas such as HPC, renewable energy production and storage. SKA is very strategic for NVIDIA's international development and we participate today in the CSP and SDP workgroups through our UK office notably.

SKA is a unique grand-challenge opportunity for French companies to develop technologies and gain competitiveness in the HPC market, a strategic area for the country per the "Plan Supercalculateurs" of the French Ministry of Economy and Industry. We believe that France as a country should join SKA through both its scientific community and industry. As a result, we have been actively participating in the workshops organized by the SKA-France Coordination to date.

This letter is to confirm the interest and support of NVIDIA for the SKA-France initiative. We are ready to participate to appropriate public-private partnerships leading to high-visibility projects and strong added-value. This can be done through our own academic programs, contractual research or collaborative research, using national, European or transnational programs when appropriate.

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