



Position of the Director General for the Cherenkov Telescope Array Observatory

The Cherenkov Telescope Array Observatory (CTAO) is searching for a Director General to lead the organization. The Director General has the overall responsibility for the management of the organization in charge of the construction and future operation of Cherenkov Telescope Array Observatory.

The Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA) is a multinational project to observe extremely high energy photons from the Universe with greatly improved sensitivity than has been done previously. On the site of the Observatorio del Roque de los Muchachos on La Palma (Canaries, Spain) and at the European Southern Observatory in Chile about 120 telescopes will be installed, in order to measure the Cherenkov radiation produced by the atmospheric particle showers initiated by cosmic photons.

About 200 research institutions from 32 countries are involved in designing and prototyping this large scale research infrastructure. While the construction of the infrastructure on the sites and all software development is to be managed centrally, most of the telescopes and other scientific components will be delivered as in-kind contributions by interested institutions from all over the world. According to present plans the majority of construction is scheduled to be complete by 2024 within a budget of 400 M€. The observatory is designed for 30 years of operational lifetime. The Cherenkov Telescope Array Observatory headquarters for operation and administration will be set-up in Bologna for the final legal entity. It will be supported by a Science Data Management Centre in Zeuthen near Berlin. Due to the distributed nature of this Research Infrastructure, regular travelling will be needed.

The current transition to the implementation phase is driven by a core of countries acting as the shareholders of the Cherenkov Telescope Array Observatory limited liability company through which the project is presently governed and funded.

We are seeking an internationally renowned science manager with several years of experience in successfully managing large Research Infrastructures or at least large international construction projects. Experience in the relevant experimental areas of CTA would be welcome in addition. He/She will be well experienced in negotiations with international partners and with funding agencies and ministries in particular. Further requirements include: outstanding leadership and communication skills, excellent knowledge of English, competence in contractual and economic affairs.

The Director General shall develop a team spirit that will secure immediate and long term the success of Cherenkov Telescope Array Observatory. He will lead a Management Group which consists during construction of the Administrative Director, the Project Manager and the

Director of Science Management. In future a Director of Operation will be also be a member of the Management Group. The Director General shall ensure and develop a suitable and optimal organisation for the transition from the construction to the operational phase of the Cherenkov Telescope Array Observatory. He/she shall also ensure the Cherenkov Telescope Array Observatory's successful transition from the current to the final legal entity. An important responsibility of the Director General will be the management and further development of the distributed CTA-facility with its four sites.

CTAO is an equal opportunity employer and especially encourage applications from women.

Persons with disabilities will be given preference over other applicants with comparable qualifications.

The position is initially limited to a period of five years.

Applications should be submitted by September 1st, 2017 to the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the CTA-Council:

Dr. Paolo Vettolani and Dr. Beatrix Vierkorn-Rudolph
Chair and Vice Chair of the Council of the CTAO gGmbH
Saupfercheckweg 1
D-69117 Heidelberg
Germany

or via e-mail:

vettolani@inaf.it and Vierkorn-Rudolph@t-online.de

For further information, please contact Dr. Vierkorn-Rudolph (Vierkorn-Rudolph@t-online.de).