



science  
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Dear Ms Dall

## **STRENGTHENING TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION COOPERATION BETWEEN EUROPE AND SOUTH AFRICA (ESASTAP 2020)**

On behalf of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), I would like to thank you for your contribution as one of the partners in the ESASTAP 2020 project.

Preparations are underway for the events on the 12 April in Brussels, including the European Union (EU) – South Africa (SA) Joint Science and Technology Cooperation Committee (JSTCC) as well as the ESASTAP 2020 event, to take further the SA-EU Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) cooperation. The Director-General of the DST, Dr Phil Mjwara will be travelling to Brussels to co-chair the meeting of the SA-EU JSTCC with Director General Paquet on 12 April.

As we engage in discussions to take forward our cooperation, we also celebrate an important milestone in our partnership, that of ESASTAP 2020.

To many, in the science and technology research world, ESASTAP, through its many iterations has been a key platform that has facilitated cooperation between South Africa and the EU in STI. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Zentrum für Soziale Innovation for its continued support over the years. Given that the formal grant agreement of the ESASTAP 2020 project funded by the EU comes to an end in April 2019, the DST has decided that it will continue to fund ESASTAP going forward.

ESASTAP is an important established brand for cooperation between South Africa and Europe, and should build on the many initiatives that have been implemented over the years, and take forward new opportunities for enhanced cooperation. It is also my firm belief that other partners having been part of ESASTAP will also see the value of the platform and may want to continue to be engaged in this.

Lefapha la Saense le Thekenoloji • uMnyango wezeSayensi neTheknoloji • Muhasho wa Saints na Theknolodzhi • Departement van Wetenskap en Tegnologie • Kgoro ya Saense le Theknoloſi • Ndzawulo ya Sayense na Theknoloji • LiTiko leTesayensi neTheknoloji • ISebe lezeNzululwazi neTeknoloji • UmNyango wezeSayensi neTheknoloji

**Batho Pele - putting people first**

I would like to inform you that Director-General Mjwara will announce South Africa's support for the continuation of ESASTAP beyond April 2019.

I look forward to engaging with you on this and our continued collaboration.

Kind regards,



DAAN DU TOIT  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND RESOURCES  
DATE:

29.3.19