

**DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTEMENT VAN WETENSKAP EN TEGNOLOGIE**

No. 986

13 December 2013

NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION ACT, 1998

WITHDRAWAL OF NOTICE AND DECLARATION OF RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

I, Derek Hanekom, Minister of Science and Technology, hereby:

- (a) Withdraw Government Notice No. 480, published in the *Government Gazette* No. 36637 on 12 July 2013; and
- (b) Declare the institutions indicated in Schedule 1 hereto as research institutions, for purposes of the definition of "research institution" in section 1 of the National Research Foundation Act, 1998 (Act No. 5 of 1998).



D Hanekom, MP

Minister of Science and Technology

Explanatory Note

This declaration refers to the classification of certain institutions only in the context of direct funding from the Foundation, and not in general.

SCHEDULE 1

1. Definitions

In this schedule, unless the context indicates otherwise, any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act has the same meaning, and –

“declaration” means a recognition by the Minister of an organisation as a research institution for the purposes of accessing direct funding from the Foundation, as contemplated in the definition of “research institution” in section 1 of the Act;

“Department” means the Department of Science and Technology;

“earmarked funding” refers to funding the Foundation receives from partner institutions to support specific initiatives agreed to between the Foundation and the partner institution;

“free-standing bursaries” refers to bursaries awarded directly to students undertaking full-time studies at higher education institutions. Students apply for these bursaries themselves, and remain responsible for the submission of all required documentation;

“global infrastructure” refers to international large research infrastructures, both single-sited and distributed, linked by high-speed networks for optimal sharing of data and resources, which provide research and development capability beyond the resources available at regional or national levels;

“partner institutions” refers to public and private institutions which the Foundation concludes agreements with for the implementation of specific initiatives that fall within its mandate, from time to time;

“public higher education institution” means any institution which has been established, is deemed to have been established or is declared to be a public higher education institution in terms of the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997);

“research infrastructure” includes scientific equipment, specialised facilities, and global infrastructure;

“scientific equipment” means a discrete or networked, free-standing or mounted, desk-top to large, dedicated or multi-purpose usage research tool including all necessary ancillary items;

“specialised facilities” refers to physical and/or organisational structures of capital nature which provide controlled environments for specialised experiments and are required to ensure optimal performance of research equipments, particularly in the advanced scientific equipment category; and

“the Act” means the National Research Foundation Act, 1998 (Act No.5 of 1998).

2. Application

2.1 This declaration relates to the classification of research institutions only in relation to direct funding by the Foundation, and not in general, with the primary focus being on institutions in the public higher education sector.

2.2 The declaration excludes the South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (SAASTA), a component of the Foundation whose mandate is not research.

2.3 This declaration applies to the following funding categories of the Foundation:

- 2.3.1 Free-standing postgraduate bursaries for studies at Honours, Master's and Doctoral levels;
- 2.3.2 Postdoctoral fellowships;
- 2.3.3 Research Infrastructure;
- 2.3.4 Grants, including research grants, travel grants, capacity development grants, block grants, and other similar grants; and
- 2.3.5 Earmarked funding from the Foundation's partner institutions.

3. Declaration of research institutions

- 3.1 With reference to qualification-offering research-performing institutions offering postgraduate studies at honours, master's and doctoral levels, and eligible to receive support for free-standing postgraduate bursaries contemplated in sub-paragraph 2.3.1, only public higher education institutions are declared as research institutions.
- 3.2 With reference to research-performing institutions offering postdoctoral fellowships contemplated in sub-paragraph 2.3.2, or eligible for support in the acquisition of research infrastructure contemplated in sub-paragraph 2.3.3, or whose researchers are eligible for support through various forms of grants contemplated in sub-paragraph 2.3.4, the following types of public institutions are declared research institutions:
- (a) Public Higher Education Institutions;
 - (b) The Foundation and all the National Facilities established in terms of section 5(1) of the Act;
 - (c) Research-performing museums declared as such under the Cultural Institutions Act, 1998 (Act No. 119 of 1998), and those which house national collections relevant in conducting research;
 - (d) The following science councils, whose legislative mandates generally centre around promotion of research development, and technology innovation and transfer in their various fields of operation:
 - (i) The Human Sciences Research Council, established by the Human Sciences Research Act, 1968 (Act No. 23 of 1968), and retained by the Human Sciences Research Act, 2008 (Act No. 17 of 2008);
 - (ii) The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, established by the Scientific Research Council Act, 1945 (Act No. 33 of 1945) and retained by the Scientific Research Act, 1988 (Act No. 46 of 1988);

- (iii) The Agricultural Research Council, established by the Agricultural Research Act, 1990 (Act No. 86 of 1990);
 - (iv) The South African Medical Research Council, established by the South African Medical Research Council Act, 1969 (Act No. 19 of 1969), and retained by the South African Medical Research Act, 1991 (Act No. 58 of 1991);
 - (v) The Council for Geoscience, established by the Geoscience Act, 1993 (Act No. 100 of 1993);
 - (vi) The Council for Mineral Technology (Mintek), established by the Mineral Technology Act, 1981 (Act No. 84 of 1981), and retained by the Mineral Technology Act, 1989 (Act No. 30 of 1989);
 - (vii) The South African National Space Agency, established by the South African National Space Agency Act, 2008 (Act No. 36 of 2008); and
 - (viii) The South African Nuclear Energy Corporation, established by the Nuclear Energy Act, 1999 (Act No. 46 of 1999) and;
- (e) Units performing research within the provincial and national government departments, as well as other research performing public institutions and entities supporting the said departments in fulfilling their mandates, including the South African National Parks, South African National Biodiversity Institute, South African Weather Services, South African National Energy Development Institute and other similar entities.

3.3 With reference to private and non-governmental research-performing institutions offering postdoctoral fellowships contemplated in sub-paragraph 2.3.2, eligible for support in the acquisition of research infrastructure contemplated in sub-paragraph 2.3.3, and whose researchers are eligible for support through various forms of grants contemplated in sub-paragraph 2.3.4, the following institutions which perform research that addresses the strategic needs and/or priority areas of the Department, are declared:

- (a) The South African Sugarcane Research Institute;

- (b) The International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology;
- (c) The Oceanographic Research Institute;
- (d) Other private or non-governmental research-performing institutions working in close partnerships with public research institutions as defined in paragraph 3.2 above, applying through those research public institutions;
- (e) The African Institute for Mathematical Sciences;
- (f) Centre for Proteomic and Genomic Research;
- (g) Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa; and
- (h) Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study.

3.4 With reference to earmarked funding from the Foundation's partner institutions contemplated in sub-paragraph 2.3.5, as well as other departments of State, institutions utilised by the Foundation to implement its agreements with partner institutions are declared.

3.5 Notwithstanding paragraph 3.1, postgraduate students enrolled with the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences, will be eligible for free-standing bursaries support.

4. Application to be declared as a research institution

4.1 Any organisation which practices research that would like to be declared by the Minister as a research institution, as contemplated in the definition of "research institution" in section 1 of the Act, must complete and submit the prescribed **Form RI 1** together with the required documents, to the following address:

Director-General
Department of Science and Technology
P/Bag X894
Pretoria
0001

5. Commencement

This Withdrawal Notice and Declaration of Research Institutions come into operation on the date of publication in the *Government Gazette*.

SCHEDULE 2**PRESCRIBED FORMS**

Form No.	Declaration	Description
RI 1	Para 4.1	Application to be declared as a research institution

FORM RI 1**APPLICATION TO BE DECLARED AS A RESEARCH
INSTITUTION**

1. NAME OF APPLYING INSTITUTION / ORGANISATION / COMPANY:

2. INDICATE NAME & CONTACT DETAILS OF PERSON REPRESENTING INSTITUTION:					
Title		Initials		Surname	
Signature					
ID Number					
Designation					
Email address					
Telephone number		()			
NB! A letter of delegation, signed by the chief executive (or similar) indicating that the above mentioned person is acting on behalf of the institution must be attached					
Has the letter of delegation been attached?				Yes	No

3. INDICATE THE LEGAL STATUS (More than one block may be crossed)					
State-funded research institution	Private higher education institution	NGO	Private or public company	Institute associated with a Public higher education institution	Other
If the "other" category was selected, describe the nature of the institution					

4. BASED ON THE ABOVE SELECTION COMPLETE THE APPROPRIATE SECTION:			
4 a. PUBLIC, PRIVATE, NGO, or other:			
Registration Number			
Vat Registration Number			
NB! Attach a current tax clearance certificate (If registered)			
Is a Tax Clearance Certificate attached?		Yes	No
Name and Contact details of external auditors			
Copy of a letter confirming appointment of external auditors		Yes	No
What % of the annual expenditure is spent on research?			
Knowledge and Innovation Outputs in the last three years			
Year 1	Year 2	Year 3 (Before year of application)	

4 b. INSTITUTE CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH A PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION				
Registration Number				
Vat Registration Number				
NB! Attach a current tax clearance certificate				
Is Tax Clearance Certificate attached?		Yes		No
Name and Contact details of external auditors				
Copy of a letter confirming appointment of external auditors		Yes		No
Does the institution have its own HR system		Yes		No
Does the institution have its own finance system		Yes		No
What % of the annual expenditure is spent on research?				
What services provided by the university does the institution rely on?				
Knowledge and Innovation Outputs in the last three years				
Year 1	Year 2	Year 3 (Before year of application)		

5. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS FULLY BUT USE ONLY THE SPACE ALLOCATED:	
What type of support do you require from the Foundation? Limit response to 5 lines!	
Motivate why the Foundation should offer you support? Limit response to 5 lines!	
What is the extent and type of research contained in the strategy of the institution (i.e. what percentage of the institution's activities are focused on research, and is basic and/or applied research being undertaken)? Limit response to 10 lines!	

Which strategic needs and/or priority areas of the Department does the institution's research address? Limit response to 10 lines
What is the institution's policy on the use, storage and dissemination of research results? Limit response to 5 lines!
What % of the institution's activities is focused on post-graduate student supervision? Explain your answer. Limit response to 5 lines!

FOR OFFICE USE

	Signature	Date
Chief Director: Human Capital & Science Promotion		

OUTCOME OF ASSESSMENT	
Regret	
Reasons	

SUPPORT FOR:	
Free Standing Bursaries	
Postdoctoral fellowships	
Research Infrastructure	
Grants	
Special limitations	