The National Committee for International Cartographic Association (National Research Foundation), as the national member for South Africa to the International Cartographic Association (ICA), has the honour to submit a bid to host the 30th International Cartographic Conference in 2021 (ICC 2021). The ICA has only held its premier conference once before on the African continent, that being in South Africa in 2003. We do believe that due consideration should be given to the ICA coming to Africa again after 18 years. We believe that the successful ICC 2003, held in Durban, is evidence of our ability to organise a successful conference for the ICA.

PROPOSED THEME FOR ICC 2021:

By 2021 the international cartography and geospatial information community will have made great progress in areas of new developments in their fields and will by that time be ready to showcase the results of the latest research and development. The related technology will be more advanced, in particular providing greater connectivity globally to local. At that time there will be new ways in which to represent geospatial information and how this geospatial information relates to and value-adds to other information. There will be new ways in which humans interact with and use cartography and geospatial information.

In 2021 we will be ready to discuss and see in practice the new cartography and geospatial information science and management. The topic of ‘smart cartography’ will be ripe for discussion and debate.

In 2021 the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will be approaching the half-way mark. The global community will be getting ready to take stock of progress in achieving the goals set in the 2030 Agenda. The use of geospatial information in the SDGs has been acknowledged as being essential. The relevance of geospatial information and its most appropriate use in all the phases of planning, implementing and monitoring of the SDGs will be an important topic for consideration by the international cartography and geospatial information community.

With the international cartography and geospatial information community meeting for the International Cartographic Conference in 2021 in Cape Town, an African city, it will be appropriate to include the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the discussion and debate.

From the above it is argued that the International Cartographic Association should have as the theme for its International Cartographic Conference in 2021 (ICC 2021) as:

**Theme: “Smart Cartography for Sustainable Development”**

While the keynote speakers will be focussing on topics around this theme and other speakers will be encouraged to consider this theme in their presentations, this theme will not preclude any other topic deemed relevant to the ICA. The work of all the ICA Commissions will be catered for and the Commissions will be encouraged to report on their research and activities.
CAPE TOWN AS HOST DESTINATION
Cape Town has been selected as the host city, with its internationally-accredited Cape Town International Convention Centre, as the venue for ICC 2021. Cape Town is the number one convention and tourism destination in Africa and plays hosts to around 40 international association conferences annually.

The Cape Town International Convention Centre is ideally located at the entrance to the vibrant city centre, walking distance to the famous V&A Waterfront. The award-winning centre offers over 20 000 m² of exhibition space, 40 meeting rooms with 4000 hotel bedrooms within walking distance.

The city offers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Global Appeal</th>
<th>4 leading universities</th>
<th>English speaking</th>
<th>Variety of tour experiences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Safe and secure</td>
<td>Over 20 000 hotel bedrooms</td>
<td>Multi-cultural communities</td>
<td>Food and wine capital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value for money</td>
<td>International flight access</td>
<td>All nationalities are welcome</td>
<td>Leading tourism destination</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The local organizing committee thank you for your consideration and we look forward welcoming you to Cape Town in 2021.