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Subject: Important Update on 2026 Rating Call

Dear Designated Authorities,

The NRF rating system is a vital component of the NRF's mission to cultivate a globally competitive science system in South Africa. It serves as an essential tool for benchmarking our researchers' quality against the world's best.

The NRF is in the process of finalising improvements and updates to the Rating Call application template. These enhancements are intended to ensure the effective implementation of the system and provide a transparent audit trail for all rating processes. We acknowledge the importance of timely communication for planning purposes and are committed to open the call before the end of December 2025.

Please share this update with both new and re-evaluation applicants at your institution. The rating team greatly appreciates your patience and understanding in this matter, and we sincerely apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Best regards,

James Justus Meiring

Manager: Ratings and Awards

National Research Foundation (NRF)