



Barcelona, 2nd December 2010

Fusion for Energy ready to sign over EUR 300 million in 2011.

Today the Governing Board of the European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy, (Fusion for Energy - F4E), has adopted next year's work programme and budget which provide over EUR 300 million of opportunities for European industries and research organisations to contribute towards the realisation of the ITER international fusion energy project. The Governing Board has also decided to extend the mandate of the F4E Director, Dr Frank Briscoe, until August 2012.

The 18th meeting of the F4E Governing Board opened with a presentation from the Director General of ITER Organization, Prof. Osamu Motojima, who paid his first official visit to F4E and took the opportunity to present the status of the ITER project. In his opening words he explained that *"the top priority is to deliver on time - we must respect the agreed schedule and conduct an exercise for more savings"*. He further explained that *"establishing a good relationship between F4E and the ITER Organization is of fundamental importance"*.

During the remainder of its meeting, the F4E Governing Board took a number of important decisions including the adoption of the 2011 work programme and budget. On this basis F4E is ready to publish calls for tender and proposals in 2011 with a value of over EUR 300 million by which European industries and research organisations may take part in the construction of the ITER international fusion energy project. The Governing Board also decided on the next steps to continue the improvement of the governance of F4E, discussed F4E's draft industrial policy and extended the mandate of the F4E Director, Dr Frank Briscoe, until August 2012.

For more information about opportunities for European industries and research organisations to participate in the realisation of the ITER project please visit the webpage:

<http://fusionforenergy.europa.eu/procurementsgrants/>

Background information:

Fusion for Energy

Fusion for Energy (F4E) is the European Union's organisation for Europe's contribution to ITER. One of the main tasks of F4E is to work together with European industry, SMEs and research organisations to develop and provide a wide range of high technology components together with engineering, maintenance and support services for the ITER project.

F4E supports fusion R&D initiatives through the Broader Approach Agreement signed with Japan and prepares for the construction of demonstration fusion reactors (DEMO).

F4E was created by a decision of the Council of the European Union as an independent legal entity and was established in April 2007 for a period of 35 years.

Its offices are in Barcelona, Spain.

<http://www.fusionforenergy.europa.eu>

ITER

ITER is a first-of-a-kind global collaboration. It will be the world's largest experimental fusion facility and is designed to demonstrate the scientific and technological feasibility of fusion power.

Fusion is the process which powers the sun and the stars. When light atomic nuclei fuse together to form heavier ones, a large amount of energy is released. Fusion research is aimed at developing a safe, limitless and environmentally responsible energy source.

Europe will contribute almost half of the costs of its construction, while the other six Members to this joint international venture (China, Japan, India, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the USA), will contribute equally to the rest.

The site of the ITER project is at Cadarache in the South of France.

<http://www.iter.org/>