



FUSION FOR ENERGY

The European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy

THE GOVERNING BOARD

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS OF THE 32nd MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD (GB) OF FUSION FOR ENERGY (F4E)

Barcelona, 8-9 June 2015

Preliminaries

1. The GB approved the agenda of its 32nd meeting.
2. The GB approved the minutes of its 30th and 31st meetings.

Progress Reports

3. The GB took note of a progress report by the F4E Director.
4. The GB took note of the need to establish financial compensatory measures to Voluntary Contributors for the Broader Approach Activities and encourages the F4E Director to make a proposal for the methodology for granting such financial compensations to be submitted through Administrative and Management Committee for approval at the next GB meeting.
5. The GB took note of a progress report from the ITER Director General and requested that a copy of the draft Terms of Reference for the Reserve Fund be provided to the GB on the understanding that it was subject to approval at the ITER Council.

Report from Euratom

6. The GB took received information by Euratom and:
 - a) Noted that ITER is now under the political responsibility of the Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy, Miguel Arias Cañete and that the administrative responsibility for ITER is being transferred from the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD) to the Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER) from 1 July 2015. The GB also noted that "ITER" Unit in DG RTD will be moved to DG ENER under the responsibility of Massimo Garribba, Director for Nuclear Safety and Fuel Cycle;
 - b) Was informed about the outcome of the ITER Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) meeting of 17-18 May 2015 and the ITER Management Advisory Committee (MAC) meeting of 26-28 May 2015 as well as the preparations for the forthcoming ITER Council meeting 17 – 18 June 2015;
 - c) Noted that the vacancy notice for the position of the F4E Director was published on 9 June 2015. The GB urged the Commission to take all possible measures to accelerate the selection procedure so as to allow the GB to appoint the next F4E Director at the earliest opportunity and that a special GB meeting was likely to be arranged in November for that purpose.

Reports from the Chairs

7. The GB noted the report from the Chair of the GB including the summary from the Bureau meeting of 21 May 2015.
8. The GB noted the report from the Vice-Chair of the Administration and Management Committee (AMC) and the summary from the AMC's first meeting on 19 May 2015 at which the AMC adopted their rules of procedure, as approved by the GB, among other items.
9. The GB noted the report from the Chair of the Procurement and Contracts Committee (PCC) and the summary of decisions from its first two PCC meetings on 29 April and 2 June 2015 at which the PCC adopted their rules of procedure, as approved by the GB, among other items.

10. The GB noted that report from the Chair of the Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) who referred to the summary of decisions from the 22nd TAP meeting on 7-8 May 2015.

Implementation of F4E's 2015 Action Plan

11. The GB took note of a paper from the F4E Director on the status of the implementation of F4E's 2015 Action Plan and:
- a) Welcomed the progress that has been achieved and appreciated that links that have been established with the recommendations of the 3rd annual assessment of F4E;
 - b) Asked the F4E Director to continue to report regularly on the progress made in the implementation of F4E's 2015 Action Plan.
12. The GB endorsed the proposal of the F4E Director to implement an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System.
13. The GB approved a modification to the basic organisational chart of F4E with the addition of a "Project Management Infrastructure and Control" Department pursuant to Article 6(3)(b) of the statutes. The GB agreed that the Director will choose the date at which this changes enters into force.

Status of Major Contracts

14. The GB took note of a presentation on the status of the contract for the fabrication of seven sectors of the ITER Vacuum Vessel and requested the F4E Director to:
- a) Continue to provide a report on the status of the contract (in particular with respect to a set of high-level milestones to be met by the supplier in order to release the next fabrication steps) every quarter to the Bureau and that the Bureau may decide to elevate any issues to the attention of the GB;
 - b) Provide an updated report on the on the status of the contract to the next GB meeting in December 2015.
15. The GB took note of a presentation on the status of the contracts and the cost estimate at completion in the area of the ITER Buildings and concluded the following:
- a) Noted the commitment of the ITER Director General to freeze the design of the ITER buildings by the end of June 2015 and urged Euratom to insist on this in the ITER Council so that the flow of Project Change Requests is stemmed to only those that are absolutely essential for the project's success;
 - b) Decided to hold an extraordinary meeting of the GB in early October to understand completely the situation with the ITER buildings.

Status of the Fourth Annual Assessment of F4E

16. The GB took note of the status of the Fourth Annual Assessment of F4E and stressed that emphasis should be placed on assessing:
- a) The extent to which the recommendations of the previous assessment are being followed up by F4E;
 - b) The progress being made with the implementation of the 2015 F4E Action Plan and the capability of F4E in that regard.
17. The GB stressed that the scope of the assessment does not extend to the ITER Central Team but only its impacts on F4E.

Specific Reports from the F4E Director

18. The GB took note of reports on:

- a) Major Contracts and Procurements and Related Risks;
- b) 2014 and 2015 Budgets and Forecast. The GB urged F4E to achieve a high level of implementation by the end of the year;
- c) Staffing and Vacancy Rate. The GB urged F4E to make full use of its human resources and reduce the vacancy rate by the end of the year;
- d) Planning, Monitoring and Reporting Activities;
- e) Status of the Permanent Office Premises.

Operational Matters

19. In relation to the situation with the JT-60SA Toroidal Field Coils and taking into account the recommendation of the AMC, the GB:

- a) Endorsed the plan proposed by F4E to mitigate the risks of delays by amending the Procurement Arrangement and associated Agreement of Collaboration;
- b) Invited F4E to submit the final text of the above-mentioned documents to the AMC for approval (if necessary, by written procedure).

20. Adopted the first amendments to the:

- a) 2015 Work Programme upon the recommendations of the AMC and TAP;
- b) 2015 Budget upon the recommendation of the AMC.

Annual Reports and Accounts

21. The GB took note of the observations of the external auditors on the provisional 2014 Annual Accounts and F4E's reply thereto.

22. The GB approved the final 2014 Annual Accounts upon the recommendation of the AMC and Audit Committee (AC).

23. The GB assessed the 2014 Annual Report and upon proposal of the Chair and Vice-Chairs adopted an assessment which will be annexed thereto.

Amended F4E Financial Rules

24. In relation to the process of revision of F4E's financial rules so that they are based upon the new framework financial regulation, the GB:

- a) Expressed disappointment at the lack of progress that has been made despite the efforts made by F4E;
- b) Commended F4E for its approach in identifying ways to proceed and endorsed the approach proposed by F4E ("option 2") in order to make progress.

Audit and Risk Matters

25. The GB took note of the report from the Chair of the Audit Committee summarising the decisions from the 11th AC meeting which took place on 6 May 2015.

26. The GB took note of the outcome of the European Parliament's (EP) discharge that was granted to the F4E Director for the implementation of the 2013 Budget. The GB noted the responses of the F4E Director in relation to the EP's observations and asked the F4E Director to inform the GB members of the actions taken.

27. The GB noted the 2014 Annual Report provided by the Internal Audit Service and encouraged the F4E Director to implement the agreed actions forthwith.

28. The GB noted the 2014 Annual Report of the Internal Audit Capability.

Anti-Fraud Strategy

29. The GB adopted an Anti-Fraud Strategy upon the recommendation of the AC.

Committee Matters

30. The GB took note of the status of declarations and CVs from the chairs and members of the GB and other committees and urged those members who have not yet provided either of these documents to do so as the earliest convenience in order to be able to regain access to GB documents.

31. The GB adopted amended rules on confidentiality, independence, preventing and managing conflicts of interest regarding F4E's bodies and committees including an amendment to the wording of the declaration concerning confidentiality for GB members.

32. The GB confirmed the appointment of Ms Guadalupe de Córdoba as the Spanish representative in the AMC.

33. The GB decided to extend the payment of indemnities to the members of the PCC.

34. The GB invited the Secretary to publish calls for expression of interest for the PCC and TAP in view of identifying new experts for appointment.

Any other Business

35. The GB welcomed the letters expressing interest by Poland and Spain on the siting of IFMIF-“DONES” and invited the F4E Director to engage in a dialogue with all interested Member States, with the Commission as well as with Japan, and to present a proposal to the December GB meeting. The GB noted the intention of Croatia to present an expression of interest shortly.

Closing

36. The GB noted the resignation of the GB Chair and expressed its appreciation for his important contribution to F4E over the previous four years.

37. Upon the proposal of Euratom, the GB confirmed the appointment of Joaquin Sanchez as the Acting GB Chair until the end of 2015.

38. The GB approved this summary of decisions

Done at Barcelona, 9 June 2015

For the Governing Board



Stuart Ward
Chair of the Governing Board

For the Secretariat

Raymond Monk
Secretary of the Governing Board