



Council of the
European Union

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NOTE

From:	Presidency
To:	Delegations
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Subject:	Draft Council conclusions on the reformed ITER project

Delegations will find attached a Presidency text on the draft Council conclusions on the reformed ITER project with a view to the Joint Research/Atomic Questions Working Party on 29 January 2018.

Changes to document 5026/18 are marked in ~~strike through~~ for deletions and **bold underlined** for a new text.

DRAFT COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS ON

THE REFORMED ITER PROJECT

1. The Council TAKES NOTE of the Communication of 14 June 2017 from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council entitled "EU contribution to a reformed ITER project"¹.
2. The Council UNDERLINES the importance of ITER **project** in the European fusion roadmap and the need to ensure effective coordination between the ITER activities and the activities of EUROfusion in view of achieving the commercial deployment of fusion power **in a cost efficient way**.
3. The Council WELCOMES the improvements brought to the project to put it back on track in line with the *staged approach* which forms the basis of the new project baseline; the Council NOTES WITH SATISFACTION the progress on the ITER site ~~with all~~ **and** the ~~revised~~ **achievement of the** milestones ~~achieved~~ for 2016 and 2017.
- 3a. The Council, however, REGRETS the past significant cost increases and delays in the completion and delivery of some in-kind contributions and therefore CALLS all stakeholders for a rigorous commitment to ensure successful and on time completion of the ITER project.**

¹ **Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on EU contribution to a reformed ITER project; Commission staff working document on the ITER project status accompanying the document Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on EU contribution to a reformed ITER project (10434/17 + ADD1).**

4. The Council ~~WELCOMES~~ **ACKNOWLEDGES** the efforts to improve the project governance and the efforts of the new management in the ITER Organization and in Fusion for Energy and **CALLS** on the management to pay utmost attention to risk management **and improved cost control** so as to avoid **any** further delays in the future. The Council **URGES** both the ITER Organization and Fusion for Energy to adopt further cost containment measures **without decreasing the quality and capabilities of the planned facility.**
5. The Council **NOTES** that the new baseline schedule focuses on the construction of the components that are essential to achieve First Plasma in 2025; these are to be followed by limited additional Final Installation activities in the operation phase from January 2026 until the start of Deuterium-Tritium Operation in 2035.
- 5a. The Council RECOMMENDS that Fusion for Energy consider ways to address the differences in the level of participation of the different Member States in the implementation of the ITER project.**
- 5b. In the context of discussions of the future IFMIF-DONES project, the Council WELCOMES the European candidacy for the site and INVITES the Commission to make its best efforts to promote it.**
- ~~6. The Council, however, REGRETS that in the past, components have been postponed, thereby causing cost increases. The Council therefore REQUESTS that the components for the completion of the construction in 2025 will be kept in line with the new project baseline.~~
7. The Council **REITERATES** the limit of the European contribution to the project for the construction period until 2020 to EUR 6.6 billion (in 2008 prices) as set by the Council in 2010². **It also STRESSES the importance to stay strictly within the new baseline.**
8. The Council **NOTES** that the European contribution for the construction of the ITER project will be of 5/11 of the construction cost of which 80% will be funded by Euratom and 20% by France.

² **Council Conclusion on ITER status and possible way forward (doc. 11902/10).**

9. The Council REAFFIRMS the strong commitment of Euratom to the successful completion of the project **and will ENDEAVOUR to make available resources within the limits of the next MFF without prejudging any subsequent MFF negotiations.** It also STRESSES the importance of appropriate contingency both in time and resources.
 10. The Council CALLS for a clear commitment from all international ITER Parties to fully support the completion of the project under the new baseline in line with the decisions of the ITER Council on 21-22 June 2017.
 11. [Taking into account the above considerations, the Council MANDATES the Commission to approve the ITER project baseline on behalf of Euratom at an ITER Council meeting at Ministerial level **to be held in 2018.**]
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