

**Joint Communiqué**  
**First Interim ITER Council Meeting**

**21<sup>st</sup> November 2006, Paris**

Following the signature of the ITER Agreement by Ministers from the seven ITER Parties (China, European Union, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the United States of America), the first meeting of the Interim ITER Council (IIC) took place at ministerial level on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2006, in Paris, under the chairmanship of Janez Potočnik, European Commissioner for Science and Research.

This constituted the first act of the newly established ITER Organization. The main results of the meeting were: to provide the framework for implementation of the ITER Agreement on a provisional basis, to endow the ITER Organization with the necessary capacities and access to resources, and to empower the ITER Nominee Director-General, Kaname Ikeda, to bring the ITER Organization into operation, and to pursue its purpose under the provisional application of the Agreement.

"I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Members for their efforts in bringing the project to this stage. With the accomplishment of today's meeting, the ITER Organization is able to embark on its mission, as a worldwide international cooperation, to help create a new source of energy for humankind", said Kaname Ikeda.