

## **Joint News Release**

### **ELEVENTH ITER NEGOTIATIONS MEETING**

CHENGDU , CHINA, 24 OCTOBER 2005

Delegations from China, European Union, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the United States of America met in CHENGDU on 24 October 2005 to continue their work to reach agreement on the joint implementation of the ITER international fusion energy R&D project..

This was the second time for China to host the ITER Negotiations meeting.

At the Meeting, delegates discussed and made substantial progress on a full range of legal, technical, and administrative topics, including policy and technical aspects of staffing for ITER, the policies for managing the project and its procurements, and the continuing joint drafting of the international Agreement on establishing the ITER Organization to implement the project.

Delegates also discussed the possibility of India joining the Negotiations. In light of reports presented to the Meeting from the recent joint exploratory fact finding mission to India, delegates identified a series of steps for the near future leading towards a possible agreement among all the Parties to India' s accession.

The next negotiation meeting will be held in Jeju Island, Korea, from 1-8 December 2005.