

Joint News Release

Tenth ITER NEGOTIATIONS MEETING

Cadarache, France, 12 September 2005

Cadarache, France, 12 September 2005 -Delegations from China, European Union, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the United States of America met in Cadarache on 12 September 2005 to resume their work to reach agreement on the implementation of the ITER international fusion energy R&D project, to be sited at Cadarache.

This was the first Negotiations Meeting following the Ministerial Meeting for ITER in Moscow of 28 June 2005, in which a common understanding on the site selection was reached.

All delegations reiterated their intention to proceed together with the construction of ITER at the earliest date, and expressed their satisfaction on progress made on the definition of the process for designation of top ITER officials. In particular, the delegations expressed the wish to see Japan identify suitably qualified candidate(s) to be designated as Nominee Director General.

At the Negotiations Meeting, delegates discussed a full range of legal, technical, administrative and managerial topics, including the form and the structure of the international organization, staffing, resources and risk management, which will form the basis for the Agreement on implementing ITER and the operation of the international ITER Organization.

Negotiators agreed that substantial progress was made on all topics, and looked forward to an early completion of the negotiations.

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In a separate meeting, the ITER delegates had an informal exchange with a delegation from India on India's interest in the possibility of participating in ITER.

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It was subsequently agreed that, without any further commitment, an exploratory fact finding mission would visit India to follow up this exchange for future consideration by the ITER delegations.