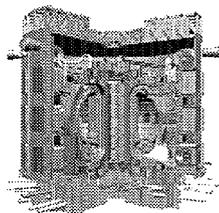




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ITER CO-ORDINATED TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

As agreed upon between the ITER Engineering Design Activities (EDA) Parties at their Meeting in Tokyo in December 2000, "Co-ordinated Technical Activities" (CTA) means technical activities which are deemed necessary to maintain the integrity of the international project, so as to prepare for ITER Joint Implementation.

Such activities will build on the results of the ITER EDA and be conducted considering specific conditions of the site(s) offered. They will result in technical documents in support of negotiations towards the ITER Joint Implementation, to enable the project to move smoothly towards construction.

Participants in the CTA are the Parties who had been involved in the ITER Engineering Design Activities (EDA), as well as the governments of other countries that have presented to the Parties a specific construction site offer. The invitation to join this latest phase of ITER was made by the IAEA Director General Dr. ElBaradei earlier this year. Canada, the European Union, Japan, and the Russian Federation have all accepted this invitation and confirmed their participation. At this time, only Canada has offered a site to Host ITER. Other interested countries which possess relevant specific capabilities and which can contribute significantly to ITER Joint Implementation may also join under terms to be unanimously approved by the Participants.

The Participants will conduct the CTA in a co-ordinated manner, under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) till the end of 2002. The scope of the activities includes:

- Design adaptation to the specific site(s) conditions,
- Safety analysis and licensing preparation that are based on specific site offer(s),
- Evaluation of cost and construction schedules,
- Preparation of procurement documents, and
- Other technical issues raised by the Negotiators collectively, whilst assuring the coherence of the ITER project including design control.

The organizational structure for the CTA consists of the Project Board, the International Team and the Participants' Teams.

The Project Board has executive functions to the CTA and is co-ordinating the Participants' contributions to the activities, facilitating liaison within the organizational structure. The Board consists of the Leader of the International Team and the Leader of each Participant Team. The Chair of the Board is Academician E. Velikhov. The results of the activities will be reported by the Chair to the Negotiators. In addition, the Board will respond to issues raised by the Negotiators collectively. The Board will be assisted by the International Team dedicated to the co-ordination of the technical activities, with particular emphasis on assuring the coherence of the ITER project.

Each CTA Participant will contribute staff to the International Team which, collectively, should have the capability of assisting the Project Board in the oversight of the CTA. The Team will use the work sites Garching (near Munich) and Naka (north of Tokyo).

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Each Participant will establish its own Team in order to undertake activities described above as entrusted to it by the Project Board. The Team of a Participant offering a specific construction site will play a leading role in developing details of the design adaptation and in licensing preparations for its specific site.

The IAEA has played an important role in starting the CTA. As confirmed by Dr. ElBaradei, IAEA Director General, the Agency is in agreement with the CTA Terms of Reference and will provide the auspices for the CTA as well as services of the same nature as during the ITER EDA. These services essentially include the following:

- Providing meeting space for CTA Meetings held in Vienna together with the required support;
- Publishing and distributing the CTA documents and reports;
- Editing, printing and distributing the CTA Newsletter.

To support these services, the IAEA is maintaining the adequately staffed and equipped ITER Office at its Headquarters at the Vienna International Center.

MEETING OF THE ITER CTA PROJECT BOARD

A preparatory meeting of the Co-ordinated Technical Activities (CTA) Project Board took place in Vienna on 16 July 2001. The Board Members of Canada, EU, Japan, RF and of the CTA International Team participated in the Meeting, which was chaired by Acad. E. Velikhov.

The major item on the Meeting Agenda was the discussion of the scope of the CTA. In this discussion the following comments were expressed:

- One of the prime objectives during the CTA is to develop technical specifications for procurement of critical items (magnets, vacuum vessel, and buildings). It was noted that the discussions with potential suppliers should confirm manufacturing processes in details in order to explore possible schedule reduction strategies.
- Safety analysis and licensing preparation should proceed on all proposed sites up to the preferred site designation, to ensure the overall implementation schedule is minimized and to resolve major technical issues needed for licensing.
- Several R&D issues remain to be further developed during the CTA. Special attention should be given by the Participants to two areas: Diagnostics; Heating and Current Drive Systems.
- Arrangements for continuation of the ITER Physics Expert Groups activities should be provided. To this end a new framework, called International Tokamak Physics Activity, is being planned. The Board encouraged the Participants' Representatives in the Co-ordinating committee of this activity to support the preparation for urgent Topical Group Meetings.

The Board agreed that the Design Authority will be invested in the International Team and that proposals for site specific design changes should be agreed upon by the International Team Leader before being studied in detail.

The Meeting agreed on some arrangements which will remain from the EDA, namely the ITER EDA Council Office in Moscow as Office of the PB Chair, and the ITER Office located at the IAEA in Vienna as agreed by the IAEA. The Board recommended that effective August 2001 the ITER Newsletter will be published in the same way as the ITER EDA Newsletter had been done.

It has been agreed that, as a rule, the Project Board will meet every two to three months for one or two days before the Negotiators' meetings, at the same place. In line with this decision, the next meeting will be held in November in Toronto, Canada. For that meeting the International Team would prepare a preliminary Work Plan for the CTA and all Participants' Teams would provide their organization charts.