

Michel Claessens
michel.claessens@iter.org
+33 6 14 16 41 75

ITER PROJECT IS WELL UNDERWAY;



The Council welcomed the integrated project management approach proposed by the ITER Organization to enhance collaboration between the ITER Organization and the Domestic Agencies.

"

" stressed ITER Organization Director-General Osamu Motojima.

Lastly, the ITER Council celebrated a major licensing milestone: the signature on 9 November 2012 by the French Ministry of Environment (on behalf of Honourable Prime Minister Ayrault) of the decree authorizing the ITER Organization to create the ITER Basic Nuclear Installation in Saint-Paul-lez-Durance, France. The Council requested the ITER Organization to continue the negotiations with the NEA (OECD Nuclear Energy Agency) in order to have the ITER facility included in the scope of the Paris Convention, noting that this decision lies with the contracting parties of the Paris Convention.

Council Members reappointed the Chair and Vice-Chair of the ITER Council and its subsidiary bodies, and thanked Professor Konishi for his contribution as Chair of the Test Blanket Module Program Committee for the past four years.

BACKGROUND TO THE PRESS RELEASE

ITER—designed to demonstrate the scientific and technological feasibility of fusion power—will be the world's largest experimental fusion facility. Fusion is the process which powers the sun and the stars: when light atomic nuclei fuse together to form heavier ones, a large amount of energy is released. Fusion research is aimed at developing a safe, abundant and environmentally responsible energy source.

ITER is also a first-of-a-kind global collaboration. Europe will contribute almost half of the costs of its construction, while the other six Members to this joint international venture (China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the USA), will contribute equally to the rest. The ITER project is under construction in Cadarache, in the south of France.

Photos of the Council Meeting can be found at: <http://www.iter.org/album/Special/IC-11>

More information on the ITER project can be found at: <http://www.iter.org/>