



At the Council's thirty-fourth meeting on 19-20 June 2024, ITER Director-General Pietro Barabaschi reported on the progress of the ITER Project, reflecting the efforts of the ITER Organization (IO) and Domestic Agencies (DAs) to position the project for success and strengthen its central position in global efforts to deploy a cleaner, reliable and abundant energy source.

The Council reaffirmed that the fusion operations pursued by ITER remain strongly relevant for global fusion research and development and the national fusion programs of the ITER Members.

china

eu Updating the project baseline: In 2022, Director-General Barabaschi launched a program of project reform, with support of the DAs and under the supervision of the Council. These reforms included streamlined project management, heightened attention to quality control, and enhanced reporting. In addition, they addressed the need to develop a revised project baseline, due to delays caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and technical challenges linked to the First-of-a-Kind nature of many components. At the current meeting, the IO, with support from the DAs, submitted a proposed update to the project baseline for the Council's consideration.

india

japan

korea

usa

The proposed new baseline would prioritize the start of substantial research operations as rapidly as possible. This would be achieved by consolidating tokamak assembly stages, enhancing pre-assembly testing, and reducing machine



feeders is ongoing in the tokamak pit. Multiple support systems have been commissioned or are in the commissioning process.

Engagement with Private Sector: In response to the Council's November 2023 request for ITER to engage with private sector fusion initiatives, a workshop was hosted in May. The workshop received strong participation from global fusion start-ups, supplier companies, research institutes, national laboratories, universities, NGOs, and government agencies. The over 300 attendees reaffirmed the importance of the ITER mission and research program as an essential complement to private sector fusion R&D. The Council welcomed this engagement and requested the Members to encourage their national entities (e.g., government agencies, research institutes, and private sector fusion companies) to continue to support relevant global fusion efforts.

New leadership team member: In keeping with the Director-General's recommendation, the Council appointed DeLeah Lockridge as Head of the Engineering Services Department. The Council also took note of the Director-General's ongoing efforts, supported by the DAs, to improve the structure of the Engineering Services Department and prepare for the launch of the fully matrixed organization in 2025.