



FUSION FOR ENERGY

The European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy
The Governing Board

SENSITIVE¹: *Governing Board matters*

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS OF THE 62nd MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EUROPEAN JOINT UNDERTAKING FOR ITER AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF FUSION ENERGY ('FUSION FOR ENERGY')

Barcelona, 10-12 July 2024

The Governing Board (GB) of the European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy (Fusion for Energy – "F4E") decided the following:

Adoption of the Agenda and Minutes

1. The Secretary asked the participants to declare any potential conflicts of interest with the items on the agenda; none were raised.
2. Approved the agenda of its 62nd meeting.

Minutes of the last GB meetings

3. Approved the minutes of its 60th and 61st GB meetings.

Written Procedures

4. Noted that no written procedures have been carried out since the last GB meeting.

New ITER baseline

5. Welcomed the presentation by the ITER IO Director General, Pietro Barabaschi, on the new ITER baseline, explaining the reasons, the process, and the main features of the revised schedule and cost estimate.
6. Noted the challenges and the risks that the ITER project faces, as well as the achievements and the opportunities that this new baseline brings.

F4E analysis and impact of new ITER baseline on European deliveries

7. Noted the presentations by F4E on the preliminary analyses of impact of the new Baseline on the schedule and cost of the following activities: In-Vessel, Heating and Current Drive, Diagnostic Ports, Cryo-pumps - ISS and WDS, and Remote Handling.
8. Noted that the impact is on delivery dates as well as on design, which will require modifications to some existing procurements and additional in-kind contributions within F4E's scope.
9. Noted that the United States Domestic Agency (DA) for ITER proposed an external review of the new baseline to provide independent feedback and recommendations that is expected to be conducted by experts from the fusion community and other relevant fields. The GB noted that Euratom will join this initiative in view of taking independent analysis.

"En bloc" noting of reports

10. Noted the following documents:

¹ Handling instructions are given at https://fusionforenergy.europa.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Handling_SNC.pdf

- a) Portfolio and Project Performance update.
- b) Annual M-SPI Report.
- c) Update on Risk and Opportunity Management.
- d) Project Booklet: follow-up on F4E project performance. The GB noted that it will have to be revised according to the new ITER baseline.
- e) Cost Evolution of F4E's major contracts.
- f) Status of Commitments and Payments.
- g) Status Implementation Audits and Corporate Actions.
- h) IAC 2023 Annual Activity Report.
- i) Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2023.
- j) Strategic GB paper.
- k) Review of Committees Actions.
- l) People Dashboard.

"En bloc" adoption/approval of documents

11. Approved and adopted the following documents:

- a) 1st Amendment to the 2024 F4E's Budget.
- b) 1st Amendment to the 2024 F4E's Work Programme.
- c) SPD 2026-2030.
- d) SPD 2025-2029 Indicators.
- e) GB Assessment of the 2023 Consolidated Annual Activity Report.
- f) 2023 Final Annual Accounts.
- g) Building Services: F4E-IO MoU on non-significant procurement implementation.
- h) Updated F4E-Eurofusion MoU.
- i) Amendment to the MoU with IO on the Design and Procurement of the TBS Connection Pipes.
- j) Amendment 2 to the Agreement n.4 with IO on the Site Cooperation.
- k) Arrangement between F4E and ITER Korea on the Collaboration in Monitoring of the Activities of Fusion for Energy's Subcontractor in the Republic of Korea.
- l) Conventions with French Gendarmerie on exceptional transports.

12. Noted the F4E-IO Secondment Agreement and proposed to adopt it by GB written procedure.

Reports from the Chairs

13. Noted the following reports from the Chairs on the outcome of the last round of Committee meetings:

- a) Bureau;
- b) Administration and Management Committee (AMC);
- c) Technical Advisory Panel (TAP).
- d) Procurement and Contracts Committee (PCC).
- e) Audit Committee (AC).

Reports from EURATOM

14. Noted the Outcome of the last ITER MAC-37 and ITER Council-34 meetings.
15. Noted Euratom's information on the first meeting of the Fusion Expert Group (FEG) involved in the preparation of a new European fusion strategy to be proposed to the new Commission.
16. Noted the status of 2024 Budget and 2025 Draft budget.
17. Noted the status of the prospective participation of Switzerland to F4E activities.
18. Noted the status of the Interim Mid-Term Evaluation.

Report from EUROfusion

19. Welcomed the first report from the Chair of EUROfusion General Assembly, Radomir Panek, on EUROfusion activities, acknowledging that a closer collaboration between F4E and EUROfusion is key to bring together the expertise of European labs and the know-how gained by industry through the ITER and BA delivery.

Director and Management Team Report

20. Noted the Management Team Report, providing the status of F4E activities, main management KPI, health and safety updates and lessons learned.

F4E-IO Integration Action Plan

21. Welcomed the document on the Status and Planning for the implementation of integration, commending the scope optimisation efforts and integration initiatives taking place across the organisation.
22. Endorsed F4E-IO Integration Action Plan.

Update on Critical Projects (VV, EC Launchers, TB04)

23. Noted the good progress of the European Vacuum Vessel (VV) delivery.
24. Agreed to the Director's proposal to organise some communication initiatives from the suppliers' premises and an on-site joint ceremony between ITER IO and F4E for the delivery of the VV in connection with the November ITER Council meeting.
25. Noted that the progress of the Electron Cyclotron (EC) Launchers and welcomed the ongoing efforts to diminish their related risks.
26. Noted the status of the TB04 and Hot Cell Facility.
27. Commended the management team for the consistency of the presentations for the monitoring of the critical projects, insisting that Milestone Trend Analyses, SPI and EAC/Budget graphs are systematically reported.
28. Approved the increase of interim TB04 Virtual Cost Centre cap.

Organisational and Human Resources (HR) matters

29. Noted the updates on the implementation of F4E's reorganisation.
30. Noted the start of the new organisation as of 1 July with Acting Heads of Departments and Units in most of the positions, and that there were no disruptions to business continuity.
31. Stressed the importance of having the Staff Engagement Survey in 2025 to take stock of the impact of the reorganization.
32. Endorsed Fusion for Energy's 2024-2028 HR Strategy.
33. Noted the presentation on the ESPs and the existence of a policy to be updated.

IFMIF-DONES

34. Noted the presentation provided by Angel Ibarra, Director of IFMIF-DONES España, and Philippe Cara, Interim Programme manager of IFMIF-DONES, on the project Status and Overview.

Industrial Policy and Vision implementation

35. Noted the implementation status, planning and pilot actions of the Technology Development Programme (TDP).
36. Endorsed the proposal for a collaboration framework to support the European private sector fusion enterprises.

Governance Matters

37. Noted with concern that no GB members have expressed their interest to take up the position of AMC Chair.
38. The GB approved the renewal of Elena Gaio as the vice chair of the TAP until the end of 2025, and the appointment of Joseph Schweinzer as a new TAP member.
39. The GB agreed to exceptionally prolong the mandate of current TAP members by one year to ensure continuity in the analysis of the new ITER baseline.
40. Approved the proposed adaptation to the Rules of Procedure of the AMC to clarify delegations for the approval of non-strategic and technical agreements to streamline the governance process.
41. Noted that digitalised declaration forms will be rolled out soon and will be requested to be updated annually, in line with the recently adopted GB Anti-Fraud Strategy action plan.
42. Noted that a governance survey will be distributed by the Secretariat and encouraged all members to respond.

Planning for next meetings

43. Agreed to convene the 9-11 July 2025 and 11-12 December 2025.

Any other Business

44. Noted the proposed F4E's financial contribution for IO's feasibility study on the Neutral Beam system's Absolute Valve, which will be submitted to the GB for adoption by Written Procedure.
45. Bade farewell to James R. Drake as GB and AMC member and expressed gratitude for the invaluable contributions and advice provided during his mandate.

Summary of Decisions

46. The GB approved its summary of decisions.

Done in Barcelona, 12 July 2024

For the Governing Board

Carlos Alejandre

Chair of the Governing Board

Signed electronically in IDM

For the Secretariat

Romina Bemelmans

Secretary to the Governing Board

Signed electronically in IDM