



## FUSION FOR ENERGY

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

**SENSITIVE<sup>1</sup>:** *Governing Board matters*

### SUMMARY OF DECISIONS OF THE 63<sup>rd</sup> MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EUROPEAN JOINT UNDERTAKING FOR ITER AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF FUSION ENERGY ('FUSION FOR ENERGY')

Barcelona, 9-10 December 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 declarations of conflicts of interest**

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 63<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

#### **Minutes of the last GB meetings**

3. Approved the minutes of its 62<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

#### **Written Procedures**

4. Noted the outcome of the written procedures carried out since the last GB meeting.

#### **Reports from the Chairs**

5. Noted the following reports from the Chairs on the outcome of the last round of Committee meeting: Bureau, Administration and Management Committee (AMC), Technical Advisory Panel (TAP), Audit Committee (AC), Procurement and Contracts Committee (PCC).

#### **Reports from EURATOM**

6. Noted the report from Euratom on the following matters:
  - a) Outcome of the last ITER MAC-38 and ITER Council-35 meetings.
  - b) Update on new College of Commissioners.
  - c) Status of Draft 2025 and preparation for MFF negotiations.
  - d) Update on European Fusion Strategy.
  - e) Participation of UK and CH in F4E and ITER.

#### **Director and Leadership Team Report**

7. Noted the report from the Director and Leadership Team on:
  - a) Reorganisation implementation.
  - b) Integration update.
  - c) Critical Projects and KPIs.
  - d) Update on Industrial Policy.

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<sup>1</sup> Handling instructions are given at [https://fusionforenergy.europa.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Handling\\_SNC.pdf](https://fusionforenergy.europa.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Handling_SNC.pdf)

**ITER baseline proposal: F4E analysis including budgetary implications**

8. Welcomed the analysis on the budgetary implications of the new ITER baseline proposal.

**Report of TAP Working Group on Baseline**

9. Noted the preliminary findings of the TAP Working Group on the baseline, thanking the Chair and Members for their contributions.

**Possible transfer of scope in the new ITER baseline**

10. Noted the analysis on the possible transfer of scope being discussed in the framework of the new ITER baseline and welcomed F4E's initiative to seize the opportunities in terms of European industrial participation in key technologies in line with F4E's Industrial Policy.

**ESP Management**

11. Noted the analysis on the management of External Service Providers (ESP), including risk mitigation actions and conflict of interest assessment.

**Reporting Improvement Project and proposal**

12. Welcomed F4E's proposal on the simplification and rationalisation of external reporting, noting the significant progress made thus far by F4E to ensure the Board receives relevant, clear and timely information.

**"En bloc" noting of reports**

13. Noted the following documents:

- a) Status of Action Plans Implementation.
- b) Status of Corporate Governance Actions Implementation.
- c) Project Booklet: follow-up on F4E project performance.
- d) Update on Risk and Opportunity Management.
- e) Cost Evolution of F4E's major contracts.
- f) Status of Commitments and Payments.
- g) F4E's response to Commission Opinion on SPD 2025-2029.
- h) ECA Annual report on EU Joint Undertakings for the financial year 2023.
- i) Information note on the delivery activities of F4E for the Heating Neutral Beam system.

**"En bloc" adoption/approval of documents**

14. Approved and adopted the following documents:

- a) 2nd Amendment to the 2024 Work Programme.
- b) 2nd Amendment to 2024 Budget.
- c) 2025 Original Budget.
- d) 2025 Internal Audit Capability Annual Plan.
- e) Update to the BA-US cooperation arrangement.
- f) Single Programming Document 2025-2029.
- g) DRAFT Single Programming Document 2026-2030.

**General Financial regulation recast assessment by F4E**

15. Endorsed F4E's assessment on the recent General Financial Regulation (GFR) recast in accordance with Articles 89(2) and 91(2) F4E Financial Regulation, noting that the recast does not affect existing F4E derogations and thus applies to F4E.
16. Noted F4E's intention to present a revised F4E Financial Regulation for adoption by the GB.

#### **Mid-term Evaluation / 12th Annual Assessment**

17. Noted EURATOM's presentation on the preliminary conclusions of the ongoing mid-term evaluation of F4E.

#### **13th F4E's Annual Assessment: Terms of Reference and Way Forward**

18. Approved the Terms of Reference and scope of the 2025 Assessment and established a Steering Committee to oversee the process.

#### **Governance Matters**

19. Noted the results of the 2024 Governance Survey conducted by the Secretariat, acknowledging its positive overall results in line with the previous exercise.
20. Approved the amendment to the AMC and Committees Rules of Procedures.
21. Appointed Mark Crisp, current AC Member, as Chair of the AC for a term of two year. The GB thanked Tea Enting for her contributions as Chair of the AC during 2024.
22. Appointed Daniel Weselka, Austrian GB Representative, as Chair of the AMC and GB Vice-Chair for a term of two years.
23. Renewed the mandate of Mario Perez, as Member of the PCC for two years and as Vice-Chair for one additional year.

#### **Any other Business**

24. Noted F4E's assessment of a possible technical support arrangement with the UKAEA, requesting F4E to submit a draft text to the next Bureau in January 2025.
25. Noted the debrief on DONES progress, including the outcome of the last DONES Steering Committee, from the Spanish GB delegation.
26. Recommended that F4E's inputs and potential contributions to the European Fusion Strategy be discussed by the GB and considered in the works of the Fusion Expert Group.

#### **Planning for next meetings**

27. Reconfirmed the dates of its 2025 meetings (9-10-11 July in Cadarache and 11-12 December 2025)

#### **Summary of Decisions**

28. The Governing Board approved its summary of decisions.

Done in Barcelona, 10 December 2024

For the Governing Board  
**Carlos Alejaldre**  
Chair of the Governing Board  
Signed electronically in IDM

For the Secretariat

**Romina Bemelmans**

Secretary to the Governing Board

Signed electronically in IDM