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NOTE

From:	Presidency
To:	Delegations
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Subject:	Draft Council conclusions on the reformed ITER project

Delegations will find attached a Presidency text on the draft Council conclusions on the reformed ITER project with a view to the Joint Research/Atomic Questions Working Party on 26 February 2018.

Changes to document 5564/18 are marked in ~~strike through~~ for deletions and **bold underlined** for a new text.

DRAFT COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS ON THE REFORMED ITER PROJECT

1. The Council TAKES NOTE of the Communication of 14 June 2017 from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council entitled "EU contribution to a reformed ITER project"¹.
2. The Council UNDERLINES the importance of the ITER project in the European fusion roadmap and the need to ensure effective coordination between the ITER activities and the activities of EUROfusion in view of achieving the commercial deployment of fusion power in a cost efficient way.
- ~~3. The Council WELCOMES the improvements brought to the project to put it back on track in line with the staged approach which forms the basis of the new project baseline; the Council NOTES WITH SATISFACTION the progress on the ITER site and the achievement of the milestones for 2016 and 2017.~~
- 3a. The Council, however, **RECALLS that it set in 2010 a limit for the European contribution to the project for the construction phase at EUR 6.6 billion (in 2008 prices)**² **and** REGRETS the past significant cost increases and delays in the completion and delivery of some in-kind contributions, ~~and therefore,~~ **the Council CALLS on** all stakeholders ~~for to~~ **make** a rigorous commitment to ensure **a successful, cost efficient and on-schedule-time** completion of the ITER project **within budget and STRESSES the importance to stay strictly within the new baseline.**

¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on EU contribution to a reformed ITER project; Commission staff working document on the ITER project status accompanying the document Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on EU contribution to a reformed ITER project (10434/17 + ADD1).

² **Council Conclusion on ITER status and possible way forward (doc. 11902/10).**

4. The Council ACKNOWLEDGES the efforts to improve ments on the project governance and the efforts of the new management in the ITER Organization and in Fusion for Energy and ~~CALLS on the management to pay utmost attention to risk management and improved cost control so as to avoid any further delays in the future. The Council URGES both the ITER Organization and Fusion for Energy to adopt further cost containment measures without decreasing the quality and capabilities of the planned facility~~ and WELCOMES the improvements brought to the project to put it back on track in line with the staged approach which forms the basis of the new project baseline. The Council also WELCOMES the progress on the ITER site and the achievement of the milestones for 2016 and 2017.
5. The Council NOTES URGES that the new baseline schedule focuses on the construction of the components that are and other related activities essential to achieve First Plasma in 2025; these are to be followed by and the limited additional Final Installation activities in the operation phase from January 2026 until the start of Deuterium-Tritium Operation in 2035 are kept within the limits of available resources and in line with the new baseline.
6. The Council CALLS on all stakeholders to pay utmost attention to both risk management and improved cost control, including appropriate provisioning for risks and contingencies so as to avoid any further delays in the future. The Council URGES the management of the ITER Organization and Fusion for Energy to adopt further cost containment measure and risk reduction measures, also with respect to other activities than the in-kind contribution to the ITER project, and RECALLS that design should follow budget with full respect of the intended purpose of the facility.
7. The Council REITERATES that the independent annual assessments of the progress of the ITER will be continued and intensified with a focus on the performance and project management, including cost containment, schedule project control as well as risk management. The Council CALLS FOR a consistent implementation of the respective recommendations of the assessments. The Council also STRESSES that the reporting duties of Fusion for Energy as laid down in the 2010 Council conclusions remain unchanged.

8. The Council REQUESTS that Fusion for Energy, as the Domestic Agency responsible for the European contribution to ITER, delivers the European in-cash and in-kind contributions needed to achieve First Plasma in 2025 in line with the new project baseline within the limits of available resources. Furthermore, the Council also REQUESTS that the delivery of all in-cash and in-kind contributions to achieve First Plasma takes place in collaboration between the ITER Organization and all Domestic Agencies.

5a9. The Council RECOMMENDS that Fusion for Energy considers ~~ways~~ ways to address the difference~~es~~ t in the levels of **industrial** participation of the different Member States in the implementation of the ITER project **by increased information on procurements.**

5b10. ~~In the context of discussions of the future IFMIF-DONES project, t~~The Council **WELCOMES TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION** the European **Member States'** candidacy for the site **of the future IFMIF-DONES project** and ~~INVITES the Commission to make its best efforts to promote it~~ **while it EMPHASISES the need to maintain the successful cooperation with Japan within a Broader Approach and its follow-up.**

7. ~~The Council REITERATES the limit of the European contribution to the project for the construction period until 2020 to EUR 6.6 billion (in 2008 prices) as set by the Council in 2010³. It also STRESSES the importance to stay strictly within the new baseline.~~

811. The Council NOTES that the European contribution for the construction of the ITER project will be of 5/11 of the construction cost of which 80% will be funded by Euratom and 20% by France.

³ ~~Council Conclusion on ITER status and possible way forward (doc. 11902/10).~~

912. The Council REAFFIRMS the ~~strong~~ **continued** commitment of Euratom to the successful completion of the **ITER** project and will ENDEAVOUR to make available resources within the limits of the next MFF **Multannual Financial Framework** without prejudging any subsequent MFF **Multannual Financial Framework** negotiations, **which will determine the details of future funding**. It also ~~STRESSES the importance of appropriate contingency both in time and resources.~~

1013. The Council CALLS for a clear commitment from all international ITER Parties to fully support the completion of the project under the new baseline in line with the decisions of the ITER Council on 21-22 June 2017.

1114. ~~{Taking into account~~ **Subject to** the above considerations **and requirements**, the Council MANDATES the Commission to approve the ITER project baseline on behalf of Euratom at an ITER Council meeting at Ministerial level to be held, **if possible**, in 2018.~~}~~
