

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL

CONCLUSION, BY THE COMMISSION, ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMUNITY, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 101 PARAGRAPH 3 OF THE TREATY ESTABLISHING THE EAEC, OF THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT ON A CO-OPERATIVE PROGRAMME ON NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY OF FUSION REACTORS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, THE JAPAN ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE (DESIGNATED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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SUBJECT: CONCLUSION, BY THE COMMISSION, ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMUNITY, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 101 PARAGRAPH 3 OF THE TREATY ESTABLISHING THE EAEC, OF THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT ON A CO-OPERATIVE PROGRAMME ON NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY OF FUSION REACTORS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, THE JAPAN ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE (DESIGNATED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1. Over the past seventeen years, eight International Energy Agency (IEA) Implementing Agreements (IAs) promoting coordination and sharing of the efforts of the Parties in specific areas in physics and technology relevant to controlled nuclear fusion research were concluded. They concern: 1) superconducting magnets (1977); 2) plasma wall interaction (1977); 3) fusion materials (1980); 4) Tokamaks with divertors (1985); 5) Stellarators (1985); 6) the three large Tokamak facilities (1986); 7) Reversed Field Pinches (1990); 8) environmental, safety and economic aspects of fusion power (1992). Euratom and the US participate in all these IAs, Japan in all except in 4), and Canada in 2), 3) and 8). This kind of multilateral cooperation has proved to be advantageous to all Parties especially given the limited human and financial resources available. The task of coordinating and reviewing the activities covered by these IAs lies with the IEA Fusion Power Coordinating Committee where the Commission is represented.
2. The objective of the proposed IA is to conduct a joint programme on the research and development of nuclear technology of fusion reactors including tritium processing. All the formal provisions of the IA are identical to those of the most recent IA (1992).
As is standard practice in the IEA IAs:

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the Parties (Canada, Euratom, Japan and the US) shall implement the programme by undertaking one or more tasks specified in the corresponding annex to the IA. There is just one Annex to the present IA; the tasks concern joint work on the research and development on tritium breeding blankets, radiation shielding and tritium processing systems of fusion reactors;

control of the programme is vested in the Executive Committee (one member and one alternate member per Party) which normally acts by consensus and does so in all issues declared critical to his Party's interest by any Party's member or alternate member;

each Party shall normally bear the costs it incurs in carrying out the work under the IA. The performance of the Parties under the IA will be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

3. The cooperative activities that will be carried out under the IA will be technically and financially compatible with the objectives and the budgetary envelope foreseen for controlled thermonuclear fusion in the framework programme of Community activities in the field of research and training for the European Atomic Energy Community (1994-1998) and in the corresponding proposal for a Council Decision adopting a specific programme of research and training (1994-1998) in the field of controlled thermonuclear fusion and therefore will not have financial consequences for the Community budget.
4. At the 54th meeting (November 1992) of the Consultative Committee for the Fusion Programme support was expressed for the conclusion of the IA in particular because of the benefits expected for blanket R&D.
5. The Commission informs the Council of its intention to conclude on behalf of the European Atomic Energy Community, pursuant to Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Treaty establishing the EAEC, the International Energy Agency Implementing Agreement on a Co-operative Programme on Nuclear Technology of Fusion Reactors with the Government of Canada, the Japan Atomic Energy Research Institute (designated by the Government of Japan) and the Government of the United States of America attached herewith.

ANNEX

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY

**IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT
ON A CO-OPERATIVE PROGRAMME ON
NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY OF FUSION REACTORS**

SEE DOCUMENT SEC(94) 1476 FINAL/2 (AVAILABLE ONLY IN ENGLISH)