

共同プレス・リリース（仮訳）

中国と米国が I T E R 政府間協議に参加 - 4 つの候補サイト全てが I T E R 要件を満たすことをサイト評価で確認 -

サンクトペテルブルグ、ロシア - 2003年2月19日

第8回政府間協議は歴史的な一歩となった。即ち、中国と米国からの代表団がカナダ、EU、日本、ロシアからの代表団に加わり、I T E R 国際核融合エネルギー研究計画の共同実施に合意するため力を合わせた。会合は、300周年を祝うロシアのサンクトペテルブルグ市で開かれた。ロシア原子力省第一次官のポロコフが歓迎の挨拶を述べ、新たに2極の代表団が I T E R 政府間協議に加わることの重要性を述べた。

代表団の冒頭発言において、中国と米国の代表は安全で環境に優しいエネルギー源として核融合エネルギーを開発する意志を表明した。代表団は、中国と米国の核融合計画の重要性を認め、両国の政府間協議への参加を全面的に支持し、歓迎した。

中国の代表は、世界最大の発展途上国として代替エネルギー源の開発を必要としていることを指摘した。中国は、I T E R の成功はエネルギーの新しい形を見出す助けとなり、世界が長期にわたって平和的かつ持続的に発展することに寄与すると信じている。中国は I T E R ファミリーの価値あるメンバーとなり、他のパートナーとともに核融合エネルギー開発の成功のために共に努力したいとの強い希望を表明した。

米国の代表は、2003年1月30日にブッシュ大統領が米国の I T E R への参加を表明したことを述べた。声明の中で、大統領は「I T E R の成果は、クリーン、安全かつ再生可能で商業的に有用な核融合エネルギーを今世紀の中頃までに作り出す努力を促進させるだろう」と述べた。米国は、I T E R 政府間協議に参加するという結論に至るために米国の科学的及び技術的なコミュニティにより広範なレビューを行ったことを述べた。

カナダサイト周辺の地方自治体の支持を表明するために、カナダ代表団としてクラリントン市長のジョン・ムートンとダーラム地方議会議長のロジャー・アンダーソンが参加した。ムートン市長は、カナダサイトの優れた特性と、I T E R を誘致することに対する地方自治体の熱意を強調した。

EU 代表団は、フランスがラファラン首相のレベルで、周知である科学的、技術的、社会経済的な環境という利点を生かして、カダラッシュを EU のサイトとして I T E R を誘致する提案を確認した。地方自治体は政府と協力して、最も良い労働環境と生活環境を提供するために、経済、教育、文化、その他に関する強いコミットメントを

表明した。EU代表団はまた、スペイン科学技術政策長官のモレナスが公式の使節団を率いてピュスカン委員に面会し、バンデヨスにおけるITERの成功のために、スペイン政府と社会の全ての層の強いコミットメントを確認したことを再度表明したと述べた。さらに、EU代表団は、スペインにおいてITERの正式の許認可手続きの重要なステップが、以前に予定されていたよりも2ヶ月早く開始されたことを発表した。

日本の代表は、小泉首相が1月10日と11日にロシアを訪問し、プーチン大統領との首脳会談とクルチャトフ研究所での講演においてITERの重要性に言及したことを報告した。また、木村青森県知事が会合に出席し、国際学校を青森県に作ることを約束するとともに、新幹線の延長と成田空港から青森空港までの直行便の計画など、最近および将来の公共交通の改善について強調した。

代表団はサイト共同評価(JASS)報告書を承認した。本報告書は政府間協議の枠組みに従い、詳細なレビューと、4つの候補地、即ち、カナダのクラリントン、日本の六ヶ所村、フランスのカダラッシュ、スペインのバンデリヨス、全ての訪問を経て纏められたものである。本報告書では、4つの候補地全てがITER計画の実施地として決められた条件すべてを満たしていることを確認しているが、サイト毎に異なる長所と短所がある。本報告書はITERのウェブサイト(<http://www.iter.org/jass/>)で見ることができる。

代表団は(訳注: サイトや費用分担等に関する)意思決定の手順について議論し、協定を完成させ、可能な限り早くITERの建設を開始するために、意思決定に必要な本質的な要素について議論を進めることに合意した。

新たな参加極の追加は、将来のエネルギー源として核融合開発の早期成功の見通しを高め、本計画にとって大きな利益をもたらすだろう。新参加極の加入によって計画はより強力なものとなり、意思決定のプロセスを加速するだろう。

第9回政府間協議は、EUとIAEAの主催により、ウィーンにおいて2003年5月20～21日に開催される予定である。

Joint News Release

CHINA AND THE U.S. JOIN ITER NEGOTIATIONS

Site assessment shows all four potential locations meet ITER criteria

St. Petersburg, Russia, February 19, 2003—An historic milestone was achieved at the Eighth ITER Negotiations Meeting, when delegations from the People's Republic of China and the United States of America joined those from Canada, the European Union, Japan and the Russian Federation in their efforts to reach agreement on the implementation of the ITER international fusion energy research project. St. Petersburg, Russia, celebrating its 300th anniversary this year, was the site of the Meeting. Mr. Igor Borovkov, First Deputy Minister of the Russian Federation on Atomic Energy, welcomed all the delegates, noting the significance of the addition of China and the United States to the Negotiations.

In their opening statements, the Heads of Delegation of both China and the United States declared their countries' commitment to developing fusion energy as a potential source of safe, secure and environmentally friendly energy. Delegations fully endorsed and welcomed the entry of China and the United States to the Negotiations noting the significant domestic fusion programmes of both.

The Head of the Chinese Delegation indicated that China, as the largest developing country in the world, has a great need to pursue alternative energy sources. China believes that ITER can potentially lead to new forms of energy and contribute to the peaceful and sustainable development of the world in the long-term. China expressed its strong wishes to be a valuable member of the ITER family, to make joint efforts with other partners to the successful exploitation of fusion energy.

The United States Head of Delegation noted that President Bush announced on January 30, 2003 that the United States would join ITER. In his statement, the President said: "The results of ITER will advance the effort to produce clean, safe, renewable, and commercially-available fusion energy by the middle of this century." The US remarked on the extensive reviews undertaken by their scientific and technical communities in arriving at the conclusion to join the ITER Negotiations.

To express support of the community for the Canadian host site, the Canadian Delegation included John Mutton, the Mayor of the Municipality of Clarington and Roger Anderson, Chair of the Region of Durham. Mayor Mutton emphasized the excellent technical and socio-cultural characteristics of the Canadian site and the enthusiasm of the local community to host ITER.

The EU Delegation informed that France has confirmed at the level of Prime Minister Raffarin its offer of hosting ITER in Cadarache as the European site, taking advantage of the well-known scientific, technical and socio-economic environment. The local authorities have expressed, in partnership with the government, their strong commitment on financial, educational, cultural and all other aspects to provide the best working and living conditions. The EU Delegation also informed that the Spanish Secretary of State for Science and Technology, Mr. Morenès headed an official delegation to meet with Commissioner Busquin to personally re-iterate the firm commitment of all layers of

Spanish government and society to the success of ITER in Vandellos. Announcement was also made of the important step of starting the official licensing procedure for ITER in Spain two months in advance of the previously presented schedule .

The Head of Japanese Delegation reported that Prime Minister Koizumi visited Russia on 10th and 11th January and he referred to the importance of ITER both in the Summit meeting with President Putin and in his speech at the Kurchatov Institute. Also, Mr. Kimura, Governor of Aomori Prefecture, attending the meeting, promised to establish an international school and stressed on the recent and future improvement of public transportation, including an extension of a bullet train line and planned direct flights from Narita to Aomori.

The Negotiators approved the Report on the Joint Assessment of Specific Sites. It was completed within the framework of the Negotiations following detailed reviews and visits to all four potential locations: Clarington in Canada; Cadarache in France; Vandellos in Spain; and, Rokkasho-mura in Japan. The Report confirms that all four sites meet the criteria established for the location of the ITER project, although there are different strengths and weaknesses for each site. The Report can be found on the ITER Website (www.iter.org/jass).

Delegations discussed the possible approach to decision making and agreed to step forward by concentrating on the essential elements for decision making enthusiastically, in order to conclude the agreement and to start constructing ITER as soon as possible.

The addition of the new Participants will be of great benefit to the project, enhancing the prospects for its early success in developing fusion as a future energy source. The entry of the new Participants has increased the momentum, and this will result in the acceleration of the decision-making process.

The Ninth Negotiations Meeting will be held on 20-21 May 2003, in Vienna, hosted by the European Union and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

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BACKGROUNDER

- ITER, which means “the way” in Latin, is an international fusion energy research and development project with the goal of taking the next major step in the development of fusion energy as a safe, clean and sustainable energy source for our planet. The ITER International Fusion Energy Organization is the entity that will implement ITER.
- Fusion is the energy that powers the sun and the stars. Research into fusion has been conducted since the 1950’s, and recent advances have intensified interest in the technology. It is inherently safe and clean - any change in the process will result in an immediate shutdown and no fuel waste or greenhouse emissions are produced.
- ITER would be the world’s largest international cooperative research and development project next to the space station and would be constructed over 10 years and operated over 20 years.
- The international ITER co-operation was launched in 1987. The design of ITER and building of key prototype components was completed in 2001. Negotiations began in November 2001 towards the joint implementation of the project – where it will be built, how the costs and procurement responsibilities will be shared, and how it will be managed and operated. Current ITER participants are Canada, the European Union, Japan, the People’s Republic of China, the Russian Federation and the United States of America.
- Four offers to host ITER have been submitted. The first was from Canada with an offer to host ITER at its Clarington site near Toronto, submitted on June 7, 2001. On June 5, 2002 three additional site offers were submitted, two from the European Union, one at Cadarache, France and one at Vandellòs, Spain, and one site from Japan at Rokkasho-mura in Aomori Prefecture. Under the framework of the Negotiations, a group of international experts conducted the Joint Assessment of Specific Sites.

The upcoming Negotiations Meeting is planned for xxx, yyy 2003.

For more information, contact the preceding list and visit the ITER-related websites:

- www.iter.org
- www.itercanada.com
- <http://www-fusion.ciemat.es/fusion/iter/ITER-eng.html>
- <http://www-fusion-magnetique.cea.fr/>
- www.efda.org
- www.itercad.org
- www.jaeri.go.jp
- <http://www.pref.aomori.jp/iter/index.html>
- www.iterru.ru
- www.mext.go.jp
- [Chinese link](#)
- <http://www.ofes.fusion.doe.gov/iter.html> (link given on the Abraham news release)