

Joint Press Release

2nd Meeting of Broader Approach Steering Committee Barcelona, 15 November 2007

Today (15 November 2007), the second meeting of the Steering Committee of the Broader Approach Agreement between Japan and the EU was held in Barcelona.

The Broader Approach Agreement entered into force on 1st of June 2007. It comprises three large research projects to be jointly implemented, aiming at supporting the ITER project and at an early realisation of fusion energy as a clean and sustainable source of energy for peaceful purposes, and will be open to participation of other ITER Parties.

The three projects are 1) the Engineering Validation and Engineering Design Activities for the International Fusion Materials Irradiation Facility (IFMIF/EVEDA), 2) the International Fusion Energy Research Centre (IFERC), and 3) the Satellite Tokamak Programme. The first two projects will be carried out at Rokkasho, Aomori; the third project will be carried out at Naka, Ibaraki.

The Steering Committee took note of the progress in each project and took decisions on the IFMIF/EVEDA, IFERC and the Satellite Tokamak Programme projects. In particular, a Special Working Group for the selection of “state of the art” super computer as well as for the selection of a suit of benchmark codes was supported. The basis for an integrated design report of the Satellite Tokamak Programme to be established within the next 6 to 12 months was also agreed.

The second meeting of the Steering Committee demonstrates how EU and Japan are realising their strategy to intensify EU-Japan Science & Technology cooperation so as to ensure mutual, sustainable prosperity and to deepen further their global relationship.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will take place in Rokkasho on 15th, May, 2008.