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(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COUNCIL

COUNCIL DECISION

of 25 March 1976

adopting a research and training programme (1976 to 1980) for the European Atomic Energy Community in the field of fusion and plasma physics

(76/345/Euratom)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular Article 7 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission submitted after consultation with the Scientific and Technical Committee,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament ⁽¹⁾,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee ⁽²⁾,

Whereas in view of the considerable efforts needed to reach the application stage of controlled thermonuclear fusion, which could be of benefit to the Community, particularly in the wider context of the security of its long-term energy supplies, the various stages of development of the work hitherto undertaken in this field should continue on a joint basis ;

Whereas the progress achieved during the third five-year programme illustrates, particularly in the case of the Tokamak process, the need for larger, more complex and more costly devices which no single associated laboratory can contemplate building unaided ;

Whereas the research proposed by the Commission constitutes an appropriate means of pursuing such action and it is, consequently, in the common interest

to adopt a multiannual programme in the field of fusion and plasma physics ;

Whereas it is important that the Community should continue to encourage both the construction of certain equipment concerned with operations accorded priority status, by granting a preferential rate of participation in the expenditure on such equipment, and the implementation of major projects carried out jointly by all the associated laboratories ;

Whereas, furthermore, the mobility of staff between organizations cooperating in the execution of the programme should be promoted,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS :

Article 1

A research and training programme in the field of fusion and plasma physics as defined in the Annex is hereby adopted for a five-year period beginning 1 January 1976.

Article 2

The upper limit for expenditure commitments and the maximum number of staff required for the execution of this programme shall be 124 million units of account and 113 Community employees respectively, with the unit of account as defined in Article 10 of the Financial Regulation of 25 April 1973 applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽³⁾.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 7, 12. 1. 1976, p. 43.

⁽²⁾ OJ No C 35, 16. 2. 1976, p. 19.

⁽³⁾ OJ No L 116, 1. 5. 1973, p. 1.

Article 3

Done at Brussels, 25 March 1976.

The Commission will submit to the Council in 1978 a review proposal designed to replace the present programme with a new five-year programme as from 1 January 1979.

*For the Council**The President*

M. MART

*ANNEX***FUSION AND PLASMA PHYSICS**

1. The subject matter of the programme which will be executed shall be :

- general physics in the sector concerned, in particular studies of a basic character or relating to confinement with suitable devices and to methods for producing and heating plasma ;
- research into the confinement, in closed configurations, of plasma of widely varying density and temperature ;
- production of and research into plasma of high and very high density ;
- improvement of diagnostic methods ;
- investigation into technological problems connected with current research and problems relating to thermonuclear reactor technology.

This work shall be carried out by means of association or limited duration contracts designed to yield the results necessary for the implementation of the programme.

2. The programme set out in point 1 shall be part of a long-term cooperative project embracing all work carried out in the Member States in the field of fusion and plasma physics. It is designed to lead in due course to the joint construction of prototypes with a view to their industrial-scale production and marketing.

3. A maximum amount of 124 million units of account and a maximum number of 113 employees shall be allocated to this objective. The amount in question is intended to cover :

- expenditure on equipment concerned with operations accorded priority status ;
- the cost of staff mobility ;
- other expenditure relating to operations to be carried out under the programme.

4. Within the upper limit of 124 million units of account :

- (a) a maximum amount of 39 million units of account shall be allocated to the financing of the operations

specified in paragraph 5, a standard preferential rate of participation of about 45 % being applied. In return, all partner associations shall have the right to take part in the experiments carried out with this equipment ;

- (b) a maximum amount of four million units of account shall be set aside for administration costs and for expenditure intended to ensure the mobility of research staff of the Member States necessary if they are to work in organizations cooperating in the implementation of the programme ;

- (c) the amount not set aside for the operations and expenditure referred to in (a) and (b) shall form the upper limit of financial participation by the Community in other expenditure incurred by the associations. This participation shall be at a standard rate of about 25 %.

5. After conducting a technical examination of the various projects, the Commission may, within the following upper limits, finance at a rate of about 45 % the operations mentioned below, which are accorded priority status by the liaison group :

	<i>(million units of account)</i>
— Tokamak systems and JET	50
— High-beta systems	20
— Low-beta systems (Stellarator)	5
— Heating and injection processes	12
— Technology	18
— Very high density processes	2

Each of these amounts shall constitute the maximum expenditure to be taken into consideration for each of the above priority operations. Moreover, the total amount for all operations shall not exceed 86.7 million units of account.