



Technical Meeting on Tritium Breeding Blankets and Associated Neutronics

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria (Hybrid)

02 - 05 September 2025

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Information Sheet

Introduction

For their economical viability, fusion power plants based on a Deuterium-Tritium fuel cycle will have to breed their own tritium in-situ. Yet, tritium breeding blankets are one of the most important and novel technical components in any of the planned next step devices to follow ITER. Therefore, nations and companies around the world have embarked on dedicated R&D programmes, whose role it is to address and resolve the feasibility and attractiveness issues of the tritium breeding blanket concepts being considered. Feasibility issues are those issues that could reduce or close the available design window or lead to unacceptable reliability, availability, or lifetime; and/or unacceptable investment impact. Attractiveness issues could instead reduce the system performance and or lifetime, increase system cost, and/or have less desirable safety or environmental implications. The strategy followed by some nations for the development of their breeding blanket technology includes the reliance on the ITER Test Blanket Module (TBM) programme for providing initial important technology information related to a wide range of issues such as breeding blanket design, fabrication, vacuum vessel integration, commissioning, operation, reliability, availability, and many more.

Against this backdrop, the IAEA is launching a series of Technical Meetings on the topic of tritium breeding blankets and associated neutronics.

Objectives

The objectives of the first Technical Meeting in the series are threefold:

- Provide a forum for exchanging and discussing technical issues associated to the development and qualification of tritium breeding blanket technologies;
- Contribute to the establishment of specific guidelines for the qualification of tritium breeding blankets as part of fusion facilities;
- Contribute to harvesting the return on experience from the ITER TBM Program to inform and support the development of breeding blankets for next step fusion facilities.

Target Audience

The event aims to bring together researchers and technical experts in the field of fusion breeding blanket technology, including design, manufacturing and testing, structural and functional materials development and qualification, codes & standards and neutronics.

Working Language

English.

Topics

The programme will consist of sessions with invited speakers as well as regular oral talks, poster presentations and discussions. A Programme Committee made up of a representative international membership will be responsible for selecting the invited and regular oral presentations as well as the poster contributions. It will also be responsible for arranging the technical and discussion sessions, as well as for the overall scientific content of the event. The scope of the Technical Meeting covers the following topics:

Topic#1 Breeding blanket design and performance

- a. Breeding blanket system
 - i. Neutronics performance
 - ii. Thermohydraulic performance and associated challenges
 - iii. Thermomechanical performance and associated challenges
 - iv. Operation, instrumentation and reliability
 - v. Integration within the vacuum vessel
 - vi. Maintenance
- b. Tritium extraction and removal
 - i. Extraction technology
 - ii. Tritium inventory
 - iii. Permeation issues
 - iv. Tritium fuel cycle (including modelling and technology maturation)
- c. Safety related aspects
 - i. Investment protection scenarios
 - ii. Radiation waste management
 - iii. Radiation protection
- d. Functional and structural materials

- e. Li-6 enrichment (including associated economics and regulatory topics)

Topic#2 Manufacturing, assembly, and licensing

- f. Joining technologies
- g. Codes & standards and design rules
- h. Regulatory frameworks
- i. Economics and mass production of materials (functional and structural) and components

Topic#3 Testing and qualification

- j. Requirements & related facilities
- k. Test results and impact on technology maturation

Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the event must be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be a member of an organization that has been invited to attend.

In order to be designated by an IAEA Member State or an invited organization, participants are requested to submit their application via the InTouch+ platform (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>) to the relevant national authority (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) or organization for onward transmission to the IAEA by **15 June 2025**, following the registration procedure in InTouch+:

1. Access the InTouch+ platform (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>):

- Persons with an existing NUCLEUS account can sign in to the platform with their username and password;
- Persons without an existing NUCLEUS account can register [here](#).

2. Once signed in, prospective participants can use the InTouch+ platform to:

- Complete or update their personal details under ‘Complete Profile’ and upload the relevant supporting documents;
- Search for the relevant event under the ‘My Eligible Events’ tab;
- Select the Member State or invited organization they want to represent from the drop-down menu entitled ‘Designating Authority’ (if an invited organization is not listed, please contact InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org);
- If applicable, indicate whether financial support is requested and complete the relevant information (this is not applicable to participants from invited organizations);
- Based on the data input, the InTouch+ platform will automatically generate the Participation Form (Form A) and/or the Grant Application Form (Form C);
- Submit their application.

Once submitted through the InTouch+ platform, the application, together with the auto-generated form(s), will be transmitted automatically to the required authority for approval. If approved, the application, together with the applicable form(s), will automatically be sent to the IAEA through the online platform. Please note Form B (Submission of a Paper) is not autogenerated, see Abstracts and Proceedings to see how to download and submit this form.

NOTE: The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the application, by **15 June 2025**.

For additional information on how to apply for an event, please refer to the [InTouch+ Help](#) page. Any other issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be sent to InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

Selected participants will be informed in due course on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Participants are hereby informed that the personal data they submit will be processed in line with the [Agency's Personal Data and Privacy Policy](#) and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required. The IAEA may also use the contact details of Applicants to inform them of the IAEA's scientific and technical publications, or the latest employment opportunities and current open vacancies at the IAEA. These secondary purposes are consistent with the IAEA's mandate. Further information can be found in the [Data Processing Notice](#) concerning IAEA InTouch+ platform.

Abstracts and Proceedings

Any participant intending to present a contribution at the event is requested to submit an abstract of not more than 500 words through IAEA-INDICO by **15 June 2025**. Abstracts may contain figures and graphics. Instructions on how to upload the abstracts are available on the IAEA-INDICO website [Technical Meeting on Tritium Breeding Blankets and Associated Neutronics \(IAEA-INDICO\)](#). If an abstract is being submitted then a Part B form must be downloaded from the INDICO page and submitted to the relevant national authority by **15 June 2025** for the abstract to be considered. Submissions must contain the author's name, email address, country, organization and topic. Authors are encouraged to flag their proposals as an oral or poster presentation. However, the Programme Committee will evaluate all submissions and decide on the final presentation format. Authors will be notified by email by **15 July 2025** as to whether their abstracts have been accepted. An electronic copy of the proceedings, consisting of abstracts, presentation slides and posters will be made available to all participants post meeting.

Expenditures and Grants

No registration fee is charged to participants.

The IAEA is generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the event. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help meet the cost of attendance of certain participants. Upon specific request, such assistance may be offered to normally one participant per country, provided that, in the IAEA's view, the participant will make an important contribution to the event.

The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the application, by **15 June 2025**.

Venue

The event will be held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), where the IAEA's Headquarters are located. Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements. Hybrid participation to the meeting is possible, however in person attendance is encouraged.

General information on the VIC and other practical details, such as a list of hotels offering a reduced

rate for IAEA participants, are listed on the following IAEA web page:

www.iaea.org/events.

Participants are advised to arrive at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the VIC one hour before the start of the event on the first day in order to allow for timely registration. Participants will need to present an official photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria at least four weeks before they travel to Austria. Since Austria is a Schengen State, persons requiring a visa will have to apply for a Schengen visa. In States where Austria has no diplomatic mission, visas can be obtained from the consular authority of a Schengen Partner State representing Austria in the country in question.

Key Deadlines and Dates

15 June 2025	Deadline for submission of abstracts through IAEA-INDICO for regular contributions
15 June 2025	Deadline for submission of Participation Form (Form A), Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B)(downloaded from INDICO if applicable) and Grant Application Form (Form C) (if applicable) through the official channels
15 July 2025	Notification of acceptance of abstracts and of assigned awards
02 September 2025	Event begins
05 September 2025	Event ends

Programme Committee

Mr Richard Kamendje (Chair)	EUROfusion, Germany
Mr Hiroyasu Tanigawa	QST, Japan
Mr Francisco Hernandez	KIT, Germany
Mr Mu-Young Ahn	KFE, Korea
Mr Luciano Giancarli	ITER, France
Mr Songlin Liu	ASIPP, China
Mr Giacomo Aiello	EUROfusion, Germany
Mr Long Zhang	SWIP, China
Mr Salvatore D'Amico	EUROfusion, Germany
Ms Francesca Fantini	F4E, Germany
Mr Mike Gorley	UKAEA, UK
Mr Richard Pearson	Kyoto Fusioneering, UK
Mr Paul Humrickhouse	ORNL, USA
Mr Alessandro Spagnuolo	ENI, Italy

IAEA Contacts

Scientific Secretaries:

Mr Ryan Wagner

Division of Nuclear Power
Department of Nuclear Energy
International Atomic Energy Agency
Vienna International Centre
PO Box 100
1400 VIENNA
AUSTRIA

Tel.: +43 1 2600 22825

E-mail: R.Wagner@iaea.org

Mr Vladimir Artisiuk

Division of Nuclear Power
Department of Nuclear Energy
International Atomic Energy Agency
Vienna International Centre
PO Box 100
1400 VIENNA
AUSTRIA

Tel.: +43 1 2600 23313

Email: V.Artisiuk@iaea.org

Mr Kalle Heinola

Division of Physical and Chemical Sciences
Department of Nuclear Applications
International Atomic Energy Agency
Vienna International Centre
PO Box 100
1400 VIENNA
AUSTRIA

Tel.: +43 1 2600 21729

Email: K.Heinola@iaea.org

Mr Lee Packer

Division of Physical and Chemical Sciences
Department of Nuclear Applications
International Atomic Energy Agency
Vienna International Centre
PO Box 100
1400 VIENNA
AUSTRIA

Tel.: +43 1 2600 21656
Email: L.Packer@iaea.org

Administrative Secretary:

Ms M. Nicole Cordova Jurak
Division of Nuclear Power
Department of Nuclear Energy
International Atomic Energy Agency
Vienna International Centre
PO Box 100
1400 VIENNA
AUSTRIA

Tel.: +43 1 2600 22815
Email: M.N.Cordova-Jurak@iaea.org

Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretary/Secretaries and correspondence on other matters related to the event to the Administrative Secretary.