IFERC Newsletter

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International Fusion Energy Research Centre, Rokkasho, Aomori 039-3212, Japan

Meeting

32nd IFERC Project Committee (IFERC PC-32) meeting

The 32nd International Fusion Energy Research Centre (IFERC) Project Committee (IFERC PC-32) meeting was held at the IFERC site, Rokkasho on 28th March 2023 as a hybrid meeting with physical and online participation. Forty-one participants attended the IFERC PC-32. Among these were 6 committee members, including the PC chair, Kenji Tobita, 4 project team members, including the Project Leader, Susana Clement, Deputy Project Leader Noriyoshi Nakajima, DDA Leader, Nobuyuki Aiba, 1 secretary, and 30 experts from the EU and JA Implementing Agencies.

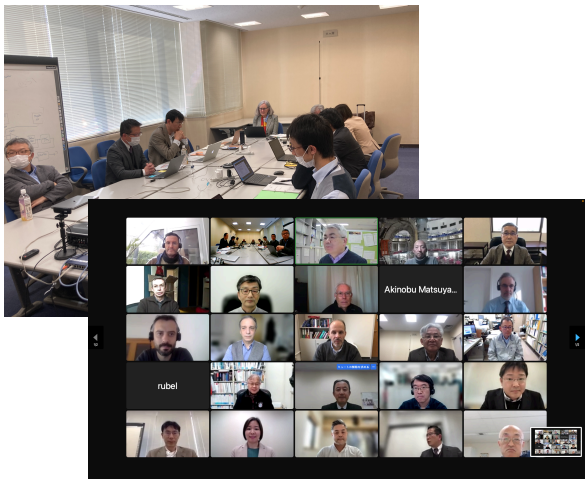

Fig-1: Screenshot of IFERC PC-32 meeting

IFERC project progressed in 2022 as originally planned despite the COVID-19 situation. The activity plan in 2022 is prescribed by the Work Programme 2022 based on the Procurement Arrangements (PAs). The progress of activities since the last PC-31 held in October 2022 was reported in the status report of CSC Activity, of DEMO Design Activity (DDA), of DEMO R&D Activity, and of REC Activity.

The most important issue in this meeting was to propose the "Annual Report 2022" and an "Update of IFERC Project Plan" for their eventual approval by the Broader Approach (BA) Steering Committee (SC). The IFERC PC members recommended for approval by the BA SC both documents. The upcoming BA SC meeting; BA SC-31 will be held on 11th May 2023 in Rokkasho.

Hereafter, the recent topics are shown. Regarding CSC, HPC resources in JFRS-1 (JA) and Marconi 100 (EU) were provided, and were allocated to BA simulation projects targeting high priority areas relevant to fusion development programmes such as ITER, JT-60SA, DEMO and IFMIF/EVEDA in FY 2023 (the 4th cycle) as well as in FY 2022. Under the BA-IO collaboration, ITER scientists had joined two existing simulation projects to pursue urgent simulation activities on divertor physics and disruptions. ITER unmitigated disruption simulations cover the ITER relevant parameter space, and the primary goal of divertor simulations is to revisit the existing SOLPS4.3 database built in the early 2010s.

Under the new DDA Leader, the management coordination meetings of DDA re-started monthly to share the task status and management issues between participants. The joint activities show good progress, particularly in the field of plasma scenario development (runaway electron modelling) and divertor physics (benchmarking between SOLPS (EU) and SONIC (JA)).

DEMO R&D Activity shows steady and good progress in 4 task areas covering R&D in tritium technology, structural materials, Breeding Functional Materials (BFM), and corrosion database. New irradiation facilities, BR-2 reactor in Belgium and WWR-K reactor in Kazakhstan, were selected instead of a Russian reactor to conduct BFM irradiation experiments, and preparatory works have been done.

The REC activities continued to have high visibility and urgency due to the COVID-19 situation. Under the BA-IO collaboration, a test of the ITER Dashboard as a live data viewing tool was successfully carried out using the L2VPN dedicated line between REC and CODAC. After that, preparations for the next tests related to CODAC application testing are ongoing. In parallel, the collaboration with IFMIF/EVEDA on remote participation has enabled the commissioning and operation activities of LIPAc, and cooperative activities to evaluate both Remote Data Access and Remote Computer Access to LIPAc continue.

The details of activities in each sub-project will be reported in individual newsletters in near future.

(IFERC Project Team)