

## **Prototype Fusion Reactor Proposed by Late 2030's, with One Trillion Yen for Construction**

The roadmap working group of the Fusion Energy Forum of Japan's International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) Broad-approach (BA) Technology Promotion Committee has finalized a report entitled "Roadmap and Technological Strategy toward Commercialization of Fusion Energy," which it had been studying at the request of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). The working group consists of researchers, engineers and technicians from Japanese universities, research institutes and industries, as well as other experts from various fields.

On the assumption that the reactor will be a Tokamak, the report urges that a prototype reactor start operation no later than the latter part of the 2030s, to be followed by demonstration of generation for a decade or so, with the first commercial fusion reactor to be introduced in the 2050s. It says that more than a thousand technological "maps" will be required for construction of the prototype, and puts construction costs at about ¥1 trillion (approx. \$9.3 billion), including surrounding facilities.

*Editor: Mio Kimuro, JAIF*