

News Letter Nr 1  
FUSION EUROPE  
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## **EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT BACKS FUSION**

Today, the European Parliament, Strasbourg, voted a 100 MEuros increase in the fusion budget in Framework Programme 6, following a last minute drama. Mrs Ahern called the FP6 fusion proposals outdated, as Japan and USA had pulled out. Mrs McNally, PES Coordinator previously obtained a free vote. (The vote was unrecorded). Personally she felt ITER wouldn't happen, extra money would materialize later. Mr Seppanen (GUE) demanded more fusion money; Switzerland, Canada, Japan involved; ITER must not be delayed. Mrs Rühl (Greens) stated that too much money was spent on fusion. Mr Linkohr (PES) didn't accept fusion was a too distant prospect - at least give the next generation the choice. Mr Trakatellis (GUE) was glad that fusion was supported addressing long-term needs. Commissioner Busquin said flexibility on the ITER 200 MEuros possible; welcomed "fast track" ITER and materials to 2020, but doesn't support global FP6 budget increase to 17.6 billion

Research Council decides on 12 December.

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Rue Wierts 11 - B 1050 Brussels - Tel.: +32-(0)2 644 06 98 -  
Fax : +32-(0)2 640 10 84 - Mob.: +32-(0)475 28 10 50  
andyerlam@touchstoneeurope.com

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