

bol.com**60% off bestsellers!****AFX News on Yahoo! Finance**quote news London [Symbol Lookup](#)**Monday April 11, 11:06 AM****EU research chief in Japan amid deadlock on nuclear project**

TOKYO (AFX) - EU research commissioner Janez Potocnik held talks here aimed at breaking an impasse over which country should host the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER), a multi-billion-dollar project to create clean, inexhaustible energy.

The commissioner met Yasufumi Tanahashi, junior state minister for science and technology, and will hold talks tomorrow with Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Minister Nariaki Nakayama.

Tanahashi said he and Potocnik discussed EU and Japanese science and technology policies as well as the importance of bilateral cooperation in the science field.

Asked about ITER, the minister said all the details would be discussed at tomorrow's meeting between Nakayama and Potocnik.

Talks are deadlocked on whether to choose Japan or France as the site of the ITER.

The US and South Korea support Japan's offer to build ITER in Rokkasho-mura, a northern village near the Pacific Ocean, while China and Russia back the bid of the southern French town of Cadarache.

The EU has threatened to go it alone if Japan does not drop its bid. Potocnik's trip to Japan came a week ahead of a European Union ministerial meeting set to take up the issue on April 18.

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