under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) have completed an initial study for a facility to operate in the late 1980's in which the engineering problems associated with a commercial fusion power system would be investigated. This International Tokamak Facility (INTOR) would be concerned with power system technologies and would also demonstrate electricity generation. It is almost certain that the United States will proceed with the construction of a facility such as INTOR in the USA, if international accord cannot be reached on INTOR. Already the USA has a second independent study group about the same size as their INTOR team working to define a next generation fusion Engineering Test Facility (ETF).

In summary, fusion r&d is being actively pursued in the technologically developed nations. In these countries the budget devoted to fusion r&d has become a significant fraction of the fission budget (for USA and Japan greater than 25%, for the European Community about 10%, for Great Britain 11%). These nations are placing increased emphasis on fusion as a possible permanent energy solution.