

July 25, 1967

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EURATOM RESEARCH BUDGET AND SECOND FIVE-YEAR RESEARCH PROGRAM APPROVED

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- July 25, 1967 -- The European Council of Ministers has reached agreement on the European Atomic Energy Community's 1967 research budget and on revision of Euratom's 1963-67 Five-Year Research Program, it was announced today in Brussels.

An important key to the solution of Euratom's short-term difficulties was an overall compromise on fast reactor research.

The Council, on July 24, voted \$117,441,000 in payment credits and \$98,118,000 in new funds for Euratom's 1967 research budget. The sum approved for fast reactor research was \$21,150,000. At the same time, the total five-year sum available for Euratom's contribution to fast reactor research was raised from \$82.5 million to \$88.8 million.

The increase in funds for fast reactor research reflected the compromise solutions for the financing of the deficits in the association contracts with the French Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) and the German nuclear research center (GfK) at Karlsruhe. An additional Euratom contribution was also made to the Italian Atomic Energy Commission's (CNEN) PEC fast reactor project.

The Council approved two amendments to the association contract with the CEA:

- Extending the association from the end of 1966, when it expired, to the end of 1967.
- Raising Euratom's contribution to the joint work to \$61.8 million.
- Providing for CEA to "pre-finance" the \$2.8 million deficit in the cost of the plutonium obtained in 1966 from the United States for the "Masurca" reactor at Cadarache, France.

The Council approved an amendment to the association contract with the GfK, raising Euratom's contribution to \$24,560,000.

Finally, the terms of a contract with the CNEN were approved, providing a Euratom contribution of \$6,750,000 -- the remainder of \$9 million originally earmarked for Italian fast reactor research between July 1, 1966 and December 31, 1967. This contract, however, does not constitute a renewal of the Euratom-CNEN association which expired on July 1, 1966.