

§1. Collaborative Research Enhancement

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In FY2013, the RESO visited seven leading research institutes in Europe to investigate the activities on promoting collaboration researches, training young researchers and public relations in other institutes. After the visit, the collaborative researches between the NIFS and the Institute for Magnetic Fusion Research (IRFM) in the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA, France), and the RFX consortium, respectively, have been started. To support the collaborations, and the collaboration between NIFS and the Institute of Ionized Gas (IGI, Italy), which has been going on, the new three bilateral scientific agreements were concluded between NIFS and CEA, Consortium RFX, and IGI, respectively, at the initiative of the RESO in February 2015.

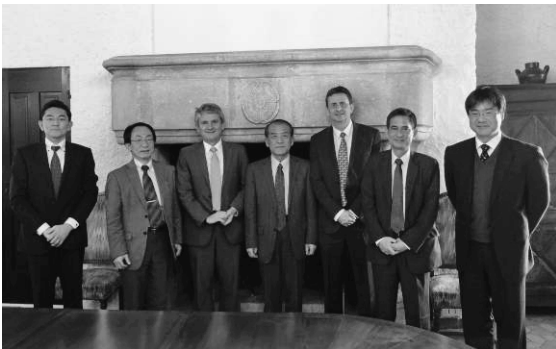


Fig. The signing ceremony at the CEA

The RESO coordinated the workshop between the LHD team (NIFS) and the W7-X team (Max Planck Institute of Plasma Physics), on 1-3 July, 2014, at Greifswald, Germany, to start the collaboration activities. From NIFS, 10 researchers and an URA attended the workshop, and 4 researchers attended via teleconference. During the workshop, 15 collaborative researches in the fields of plasma diagnostics, plasma heating, and plasma theory were proposed, and the responsible persons for each research were fixed.

The RESO reinforced the ties between NIFS and Princeton University in cooperation with the NINS URA posted in U. S. A. Two researchers and an URA in NIFS attended the meeting of the “Max-Planck Princeton Research Center for Plasma Physics” in March 2015 to join the center in future.

The RESO held the “International Workshop on the Strategy for Stellarator/Heliotron Research” on 4-6 March,



Fig. Participants of the LHD-W7-X workshop

2015, in Nagoya. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss plans for stellarator/heliotron research toward a DEMO device. Emphasis was placed on free discussion based on the present status of theoretical and experimental research and reactor-relevant design studies, rather than on going consensus among participants. Eight leaders of the foreign institutes (Australia, Ukraine, Germany, Spain, Russia and U. S. A.), and 23 Japanese researchers (Kyoto University, Keio University, and NIFS) participated the workshop.



Fig. Group photo at the International WS on the Strategy for Stellarator/Heliotron Research

Investigation of the collaborative activities between NIFS and the domestic universities, with which NIFS concluded academic exchange agreement, was conducted to enhance the collaborations. The investigation was mainly carried out by interviews with the responsible persons in NIFS for each university.