

# UKAEA tribute to fusion energy 'inspiration' Dr Bigot

News story

CEO Ian Chapman has paid tribute to ITER Director-General Dr Bernard Bigot, who died on 14 May.



Dr Bernard Bigot

Dr Bernard Bigot, Director-General of the ITER Organization, one of the most ambitious energy projects in the world today, passed away on 14 May 2022 due to illness.

Prof. Ian Chapman, UK Atomic Energy Authority Chief Executive, said: "Dr Bernard Bigot was an inspiration to all of us working in the field of fusion energy, so I was deeply saddened to hear of his passing at the weekend.

"He transformed the ITER project through his leadership, strength of character and incredible personal commitment. Leading one of the most aspirational but complex endeavours ever undertaken by humanity requires courage, resilience and humility, all of which Bernard displayed unfailingly.

"He knew every detail of the project and his personal capacity and dedication to fusion was unrivalled. On behalf of all of us at the UK Atomic Energy Authority, I would like to thank Dr Bigot for all he has contributed to the global fusion community. He will be deeply missed."

The experimental campaigns that will be carried out at ITER, based in Southern France, are crucial to advancing fusion science and preparing the way for the fusion power plants of tomorrow.

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