

Brussels, 27 November 2007

## **FORATOM welcomes launch of the European Nuclear Energy Forum**

**Brussels, 27 November 2007: FORATOM, the trade association representing the European nuclear industry, welcomes the first meeting of the European Nuclear Energy Forum (ENEF), which kicked-off yesterday in the Slovakian capital, Bratislava. FORATOM gives its full backing to ENEF in its mission to promote an inclusive, transparent and non-ideological debate on the crucial contribution that nuclear energy can make to the Community's energy future.**

The ENEF process was launched by the European Commission in June 2007 and includes a broad range of stakeholders – the nuclear industry, public authorities, the financial community and various sections of civil society.

In his keynote speech Pertti Simola, CEO of TVO said: “The Forum can only succeed if it can propose and promote clear and concrete deliverables. It must look at factors for encouraging investment in nuclear energy. Only a proactive approach can lead to success – a real EU-level road-map in support of nuclear energy to help meet future energy challenges.”

Outlining what the nuclear industry expects from ENEF, Santiago San Antonio, Director General of FORATOM, said: “The Forum should look at the specific priorities including the right framework for investments, maintaining Europe's technological leadership and working on improving public perception. The Forum should also stress nuclear's key contribution to the EU's low-carbon future.”

Industry representatives voiced their support for the high level of safety standards in Europe and the progress being made in the area of waste management. Bruno Lescoeur, Senior Executive Vice President of EDF, emphasised the work of ENISS (European Nuclear Installations Safety Standards) - an expert forum set up as a result of a FORATOM initiative: “ENISS is the perfect vehicle for providing the nuclear industry with a firm basis for maintaining a strong and dynamic dialogue with national safety authorities so that the best possible safety standards are implemented.”

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