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FORATOM welcomes second Strategic Energy Review and updated PINC

FORATOM, the trade association representing the European nuclear industry, welcomes the publication of the European Commission's (EC) second Strategic Energy Review (SER II) and the updated PINC (Nuclear Illustrative Programme). It congratulates the EC on the progress it has achieved since the first Strategic Energy Review (*An Energy Policy for Europe*) officially endorsed nuclear energy as a key component of the Community's low-carbon energy future, back in January 2007. However, it calls upon the EC to propose concrete measures and a plan of action to promote nuclear energy as a low-carbon energy solution and to stimulate further long-term investment in nuclear energy as a key to Europe achieving its energy goals.

The publication of the SER II and the updated PINC (5th Illustrative Nuclear Programme) underlines the progress that has been made in signposting the future of nuclear energy in the EU. It further endorses the important role that nuclear energy plays, along with other low-carbon energy sources, "in the transition to a low-carbon economy." With regards to the financing of nuclear energy, the PINC calls for a "balance between market investment decisions and regulation" and stresses that if strategic investment in nuclear and renewables are "taken rapidly, nearly two thirds of the EU's electricity generation could be low-carbon by in the early 2020's."

Commenting on the publication of the two strategic documents Santiago San Antonio, Director General of FORATOM, welcomed the PINC's renewed emphasis on stimulating investment in nuclear energy: "The PINC should provide significant impetus for a forward-looking analysis of the future development of nuclear energy in Europe, and structured and sustained investment in nuclear energy, together with other low-carbon energy sources, is essential to that development process if Europe is to keep on track with its low-carbon energy goals."

FORATOM also emphasises the pivotal role that stakeholder dialogue within the European Nuclear Energy Forum (ENEF) process has made in supporting the nuclear energy debate, as well as the work of the Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform (SNETP) and the HLG (High Level Group on Safety and Waste Management).

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