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FORATOM welcomes EC Proposed Directive on nuclear safety

FORATOM, the trade association representing the European nuclear industry, welcomes the adoption by the European Commission (EC) today of a Proposal for a new Directive on nuclear safety as a starting point for the creation of a common EU framework on nuclear safety. The Proposal is the culmination of a long discussion process that has involved the participation of a broad range of stakeholders, including national regulatory bodies, international organisations and the European Nuclear Energy Forum (ENEF) - in which the nuclear industry plays a key role.

The overriding objective of the EC Proposal *Setting up a Community Framework for Nuclear Safety*, which was adopted today, is “to achieve, maintain and continuously improve nuclear safety and its regulation in the Community and to enhance the role of the regulatory bodies.” The European nuclear industry welcomes the Proposal as a starting point for discussions leading to the creation of a common EU framework on nuclear safety.

Santiago San Antonio, FORATOM’s Director General, endorsed the importance that the Proposal gives to stakeholder participation in the forging of EU nuclear policy and stressed the significant effect that it has upon increasing public acceptance of nuclear energy: “The European nuclear industry has always made safety its top priority. All nuclear power plant operators ensure, at all times, the highest of safety standards at their facilities. We share the view of the EC that a new safety Directive will play a crucial role in enhancing the public’s understanding of and confidence in the safety of nuclear energy. We intend to continue to participate in discussions about the creation of a common Community framework on nuclear safety.

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