

Brussels, 7 November 2006

World Energy Outlook endorses nuclear energy's role in ensuring security of supply and fighting climate change

7 November, 2006: FORATOM, the trade association representing the European nuclear industry, welcomes the findings of the latest IEA (International Energy Agency) *World Energy Outlook* report that was published today. The 2006 edition of the IEA's flagship publication calls upon world leaders to act swiftly and decisively if they are to succeed in shaping a new global energy policy. Such a policy must above all be better equipped to meet rising demand. It must also be based upon increased use of more environmentally-responsible, competitive and secure energy sources. The 2006 *World Energy Outlook* also underlines the important role that nuclear energy plays in helping to promote this policy.

The IEA's 2006 *World Energy Outlook*, the first major update to be published since 2004, is widely recognised as the most comprehensive and progressive analysis of the global energy market available. It draws upon the statistical analysis and recommendations of an international team of renowned economists, scientists, governmental experts, representatives of industry and academics to call for a radical shift in energy policy. In a wide-ranging appreciation of the current global energy situation, the *World Energy Outlook* highlights the problem of increasing energy demand, which is on course to rise by 53% between now and 2030. It also outlines its vision of how things are likely to evolve if governments do not take the necessary steps, now, to alter underlying trends.

The report shows unequivocally that unless "a more sustainable energy path" is chosen that enables spiralling demand to be met, prevents consumers from suffering the consequences of supply disruptions and volatile prices, and considerably reduces CO₂ emissions, the burden on the global economy and on the environment will remain unsustainable.

Within this context, the *World Energy Outlook* clearly endorses the increased use of nuclear energy within the overall energy mix because it sees it as a major requirement for making a sustainable, clean and cost-effective global energy supply a reality. According to the IEA, "Concerns over energy security, surging fossil fuel prices and rising CO₂ emissions have revived the discussion about the role of nuclear power. Nuclear power has two main advantages over rival energy sources, namely that it produces no greenhouse gas emissions and only requires uranium as a resource, which is found in abundance in stable, democratic countries." The IEA also highlights the current global nuclear revival that has seen China, the US, India, Russia, the UK, France and Finland all signal their intentions to intensify their nuclear activities. The IEA emphasises that the continued revival will depend upon assurances about safety and radioactive waste management, which remains a daily preoccupation for the nuclear industry.

Commenting on the findings of the 2006 *World Energy Outlook* report, Santiago San Antonio, Director General of FORATOM, emphasised how its findings are a ringing endorsement of the benefits of nuclear energy and concur with what the European nuclear industry has consistently said: "The fact that for the first time the *World Energy Outlook* has devoted a separate chapter to nuclear energy is in itself a highly significant development. It is recognition that only nuclear energy can provide a large-scale and secure supply of affordable and environmentally-friendly base-load energy. This echoes what a growing number of economists, scientists, governments and NGOs have been saying for some time now. FORATOM fully support its call for world leaders to show the political will to translate words into action and to design a new global energy future in which Europe plays a leading role."

For more information about the 2006 *World Energy Outlook*, consult the IEA website at www.iea.org or contact Mark O'Donovan at: mark.odonovan@foratom.org, tel.: 02/ 505 32 26).