

**FORATOM**  
for nuclear energy in Europe

Annual

Report

2010

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# THAT WAS THE YEAR THAT WAS....

2010 was a special year for FORATOM. We reached the ripe old age of 50! To have represented the industry, through thick and thin, for half a century, is quite an achievement – one that was celebrated in style. But the year also saw major developments from both an EU and an industry perspective.

From an EU perspective, 2010 saw several milestone policy developments. These included the publication of the EC's Proposal for a Directive on the management of spent fuel and radioactive waste; the publication of the EU's 2020 energy strategy document: *A strategy for competitive, sustainable and secure energy*; the launching of a public consultation on the Energy Roadmap 2050; and the launching of the European Sustainable Nuclear Industrial Initiative (ESNII), which aims to develop the next generation of nuclear reactors.

Throughout the year FORATOM maintained its strong focus on lobbying the European institutions and on sensitising the international media. This ensured that the voice of its members was heard loud and clear by Europe's decision-makers - at every stage of the policy-making process. The Association's work within the framework of ENEF, for example, was instrumental in helping the industry to influence the debate on waste management, new build and transparency. The painstaking work of ENISS contributed significantly to the goal of harmonising safety standards at Europe's nuclear installations, thereby reinforcing the safety-oriented image of our industry.

FORATOM also organised a number of events, including the European Nuclear Assembly (ENA), seminars, an EU Affairs Course, thematic press briefings and press visits. These events, organised either alone or with partners, like the European

Economic and Social Committee or individual member companies, kept the policy pot boiling on key topics like waste and public opinion, or focused on political developments in individual member countries.

In 2010, keen to increase its influence on EU energy and environmental policy and promote an EU nuclear roadmap, FORATOM revised its strategy. After consulting the Strategy Steering Group, the governing bodies and other key stakeholders, FORATOM presented its new long-term strategic vision. This included a restructuring of the task forces system. Three new ones, Financing, Education and New Build were established.

2011 should be another momentous year for EU nuclear policy, with the adoption of the Directive on radioactive waste, as well as the publication of the Energy 2050 Roadmap.

Above all, following the nuclear accident that occurred at Fukushima, 2011 will be a pivotal year for the industry in terms of rebuilding public confidence in nuclear energy. We must constantly reiterate our total commitment to optimal safety at all our nuclear facilities and be seen by the public to have learnt the lessons of Fukushima and to have put them to good effect.

As we look back on 2010, and forward to another challenging year, I would like to thank all FORATOM's members for their continued commitment and support. That support, especially through the work of the task forces, has been crucial in helping FORATOM promote the interests of the European nuclear industry. Rest assured that we will continue to serve our members to the very best of our ability, next year and every year.

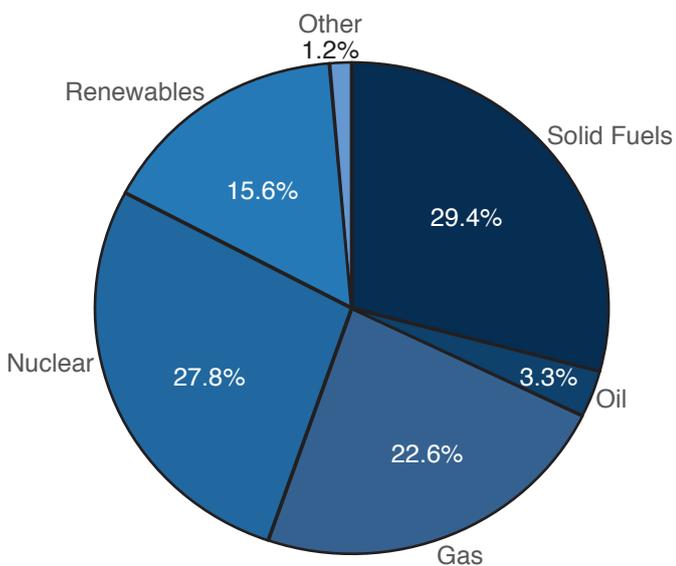
Dr. Ralf Güldner  
FORATOM President



# FACTS & FIGURES

Nuclear energy generates 27.8% of total electricity production in the EU and accounts for two-thirds of low-carbon electricity.

Electricity generation by fuel (EU 27) in 2007



Source : DG Energy, Statistical Pocket Book 2010

There are 148 reactor units in the 27 Member States of the European Union and Switzerland (In comparison: the USA has 104 reactor units and there are 444 reactor units worldwide), with a total net generating capacity that amounts to 136,411 MWe (USA = 100,747 MWe; World = 376,393 MWe).

Nuclear saves over 600 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>eq emissions per year



The nuclear sector employs around 500,000 workers in Europe including nuclear engineers, physicists, researchers etc.



# NUCLEAR UNITS IN EUROPE

Existing nuclear power plants in the EU 27 (+ Switzerland) - Source: Swiss Nuclear Forum

## Belgium

Operational 7  
Type PWR

## Bulgaria

Operational 2  
Type PWR

## Czech Republic

Operational 6  
Type: PWR

## Finland

Operational 4  
Type: 2 PWR - 2 BWR

## France

Operational 58  
Type: PWR

## Germany

Operational 17  
Type 11 PWR - 6 BWR

## Hungary

Operational 4  
Type: PWR

## Netherlands

Operational 1  
Type: PWR

## Romania

Operational 2  
Type: PHWR

## Slovakia

Operational 4  
Type: PWR

## Slovenia

Operational 1  
Type: PWR

## Spain

Operational 8  
Type: 6 PWR - 2 BWR

## Sweden

Operational 10  
Type: 3 PWR - 7 BWR

## Switzerland

Operational 5  
Type: 3 PWR - 2 BWR

## United Kingdom

Operational 19  
Type: 1 PWR - 18 GCR



# NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS

In Europe 4 nuclear reactors are currently under construction: one in France, one in Finland and two in Slovakia. Nuclear projects are in the pipeline in Finland, France, the UK, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania, Switzerland, the Czech Republic and Slovenia, with new nuclear units to be completed by the 2020's.

The Swedish and Italian governments have abandoned their nuclear phase-out policy. In Italy, the government passed legislation to abolish the current moratorium on nuclear energy and intends to build new nuclear power plants (NPPs) by 2020. Some countries like the Netherlands have chosen to extend their NPPs' operational duration. Others choose the nuclear option for the first time. In Poland, for example, the government

has announced plans to build NPPs by 2020 and potential sites have already been identified.

## ... and in the world

The global expansion of nuclear is even more impressive. Sixty five nuclear reactors are being built globally and nuclear technology and expertise from Europe is being exported to countries across the world. To keep its leadership in the nuclear sector, Europe must press ahead with new build. In its 2010 edition of *Energy, Electricity and Nuclear Power Estimates for the Period to 2030*, the IAEA revised its projections for the future of nuclear power globally upwards from 376 GWe today to 546 GWe in the low-case scenario and 803 GWe in the high-case scenario of installed nuclear capacity by 2030.



# DRIVERS OF NUCLEAR NEW BUILD

In 2010, nuclear new build continued to gather momentum across Europe. The major drivers of new build are:

**Security of supply:** Stocks of uranium in the world are plentiful and available from politically stable countries. This ensures a secure and reliable supply of base-load electricity and encourages greater energy independence.

**Climate change:** As a non-CO<sub>2</sub> emitting source nuclear energy helps to mitigate the effects of climate change, thereby supporting the EU's low-carbon economy goals in the process.

**Competitiveness:** The cost per MWh of generating electricity from nuclear is less than that from coal, gas and offshore wind. When carbon costs are factored in

nuclear is even more competitive than fossil fuel sources because it is a low-carbon energy source. Furthermore, the price of uranium remains stable. Even if it were to rise it would still represent a small percentage of the overall operational cost.

The cost of building a new nuclear power plant is very high but operating, maintenance and fuel costs are lower than those of other base-load energy sources. The higher capital costs of running a nuclear plant are offset by its long-term operation (up to 60 years).

**Socio-economic benefits:** Since nuclear power plants can remain operational for such a long period of time, the economic benefits of nuclear in terms of stable, long-term, highly-qualified jobs are considerable.

## THE POLITICAL IMPACT OF FUKUSHIMA IN EUROPE

By the time this Annual Report 2010 went to press the nuclear incident at the Fukushima power plant in Japan had triggered considerable political debate across Europe. Germany decided to temporarily close seven pre-1980 nuclear power reactors and impose a three-month moratorium on its decision to extend the operational duration of its NPPs. In Belgium a similar decision was put on hold pending the results of "stress tests". In Switzerland the approval process for the construction of three new NPPs was suspended in order to review safety standards. In Italy, a moratorium on the construction of the country's first new NPP by 2020 was approved in order to reappraise the situation. Elsewhere, new build or lifetime extension plans have remained unaffected.

# WHO WE ARE

FORATOM is the Brussels-based trade association representing the interests of the European nuclear industry. Its mission is to help its members to promote the peaceful applications of nuclear technology and in so doing to maintain nuclear energy's one third share of the EU electricity generation.



Belgian Nuclear Forum  
[www.nuclearforum.be](http://www.nuclearforum.be)



Bulgarian Atomic Forum  
[www.bulatom-bg.org](http://www.bulatom-bg.org)



Czech Nuclear Forum  
[www.nuclear-forum.cz/](http://www.nuclear-forum.cz/)



Dutch Atomic Forum  
[www.nrg.eu](http://www.nrg.eu) (c/o)



Finnish Energy Industries  
[www.energia.fi](http://www.energia.fi)



French Atomic Forum  
[www.sfen.org](http://www.sfen.org)



German Atomic Forum  
[www.kernenergie.de](http://www.kernenergie.de)



Hungarian Nuclear Forum  
[www.atomforum.hu](http://www.atomforum.hu)



Italian Nuclear Association  
[www.assonucleare.it](http://www.assonucleare.it)



Romanian Atomic Forum  
[www.rom-atom.ro](http://www.rom-atom.ro)



Slovak Nuclear Forum  
[www.sjforum.sk](http://www.sjforum.sk)



Slovenian Nuclear Forum  
[www.gen-energija.si](http://www.gen-energija.si)



Spanish Nuclear Industry Forum  
[www.foronuclear.org](http://www.foronuclear.org)



Swedish Atomic Forum  
[www.svenskenergi.se](http://www.svenskenergi.se)



Swiss Nuclear Forum  
[www.nuklearforum.ch](http://www.nuklearforum.ch)



Nuclear Industry Association  
[www.niauk.org](http://www.niauk.org)

In short, to represent effectively the interests of its membership FORATOM:



## FORATOM'S VISION

“To support the development of nuclear energy in Europe through sustained, highly proactive and visible actions in order to ensure that a long-term EU-wide low-carbon strategy includes the continued deployment of nuclear technologies with the ultimate aim of maintaining nuclear energy's one third share of Europe's electricity generation. “

# HOW WE FUNCTION

## REVISED TASK FORCES SYSTEM

Over the years, FORATOM has established and maintained a solid reputation as a trusted source of information on nuclear energy issues. Input from the national fora and the companies that they represent is collected and processed by the Task Forces. It is then channelled into discussions on EU energy issues with the European Institutions. FORATOM's revised Task Forces system has taken into account developing issues and challenges that are influencing the EU energy policy debate, most notably new build, financing and education and training.

The various briefs of the Task Forces are as follows:

- Decommissioning Financing
- Education and Training (new)
- Environmental Issues
- Financing (new)
- Legal
- Management Systems
- New Build (new)
- Information and communications
- Radioactive Waste Management
- Research and Development
- Safety and Radiological Protection
- Security of Energy Supply
- Transport
- Ad hoc 2050 Energy Roadmap TF
- Communications Contact Group
- Nuclear Safety Co-operation Instrument Contact Group

## ENISS

The principal mission of ENISS (European Nuclear Installations Safety Standards) is to bring together decision-makers, operators and specialists from the nuclear industry

with European regulators in order to identify and agree upon the scope and substance of harmonised safety standards.

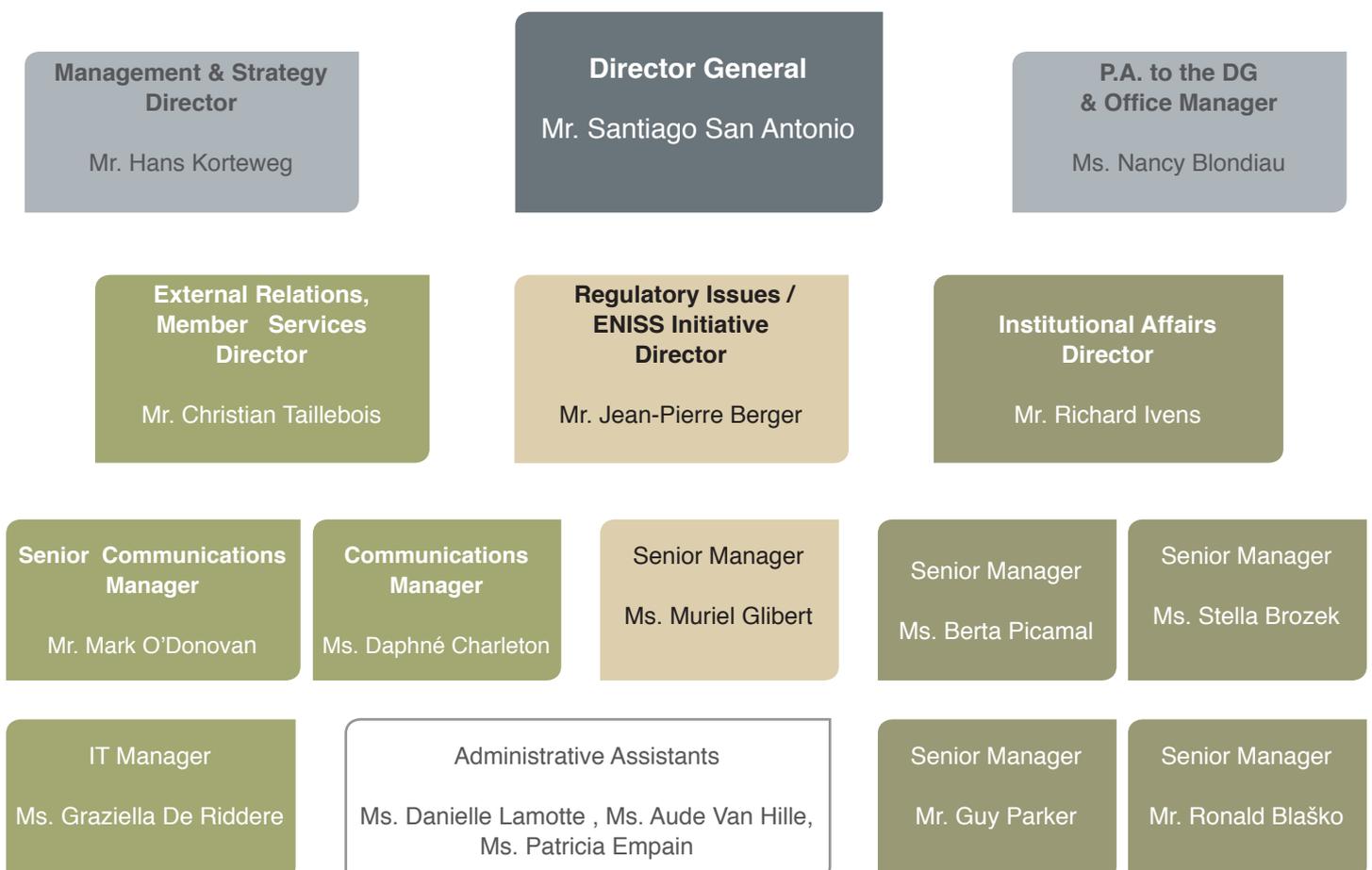
## SUPERVISORY BODIES AND SECRETARIAT

FORATOM's simple organisational structure revolves around a General Assembly that is made up of its members. The Executive Board, in close consultation with the Strategy Steering

Group that is made up of the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of Task Forces, develops and executes FORATOM's strategy.

## ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURE

FORATOM's Secretariat is divided into three main units dedicated to communications, institutional and regulatory affairs (see Organisation Chart below as of 08/05/2011).





## 2010: MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS AT EU L

2010 was a momentous year for EU energy policy in general and nuclear policy in particular. It saw a number of significant political and legislative initiatives adopted or reach an advanced stage in the decision-making process. These included a key Directive, EC Recommendations and strategy documents highlighting the present and future of EU nuclear energy policy and the on-going work of ENEF. Here is a run-down of some of the major policy developments that took place in 2010 and FORATOM's key contribution to them:

**T**he European Nuclear Energy Forum (ENEf) promotes broad discussions among all relevant stakeholders on the opportunities and risks of nuclear energy. FORATOM's Secretariat actively participates in all ENEf Working Groups (WGs) and Subgroups (SGs). A number of reports presented by the ENEf SGs were adopted by the Forum and provided valuable analyses of the key factors underpinning the development of nuclear power in the EU. The work of ENEf's SGs in 2010 can be summarised as follows:

**The Non-Proliferation SG** focused on producing two papers: ENEf and the role of industry in non-proliferation and the EU's contribution to non-proliferation. Both papers were endorsed by the Risks WG in October. The SG also prepared a Work Programme for 2011, prioritising the drafting of a paper on export regimes and non-proliferation.

**The Waste SG** analysed the results of the public consultation on the Impact Assessment that was launched by the EC in view of the adoption of the Proposal for a Directive on Radioactive Waste Management.

**The Education and Training SG**, which had been instrumental in the launching of the European Nuclear Energy Leadership Academy (ENELA), in January, decided to remain dormant. However, it will contribute in three main areas:

- Monitoring the implementation of the European Human Resources Observatory for Nuclear Energy (EHRO-N)
- Monitoring the work of ENELA
- Contributing to the EC report following the 2008 *Council Conclusions on the need for skills in the nuclear field*

# LEVEL

Regarding legal issues, **The Legal Roadmap SG** launched a survey of licensing in order to identify best practice for Member States on issues related, for example, to efficient and effective design certification and licensing and procedures for avoiding unnecessary repetition of work, loss of time or unnecessary costs. A paper on export control was drafted looking at issues such as export bottlenecks across Europe which put extra administrative burdens on companies. The SG also examined the question of state aid and competition issues in relation to the nuclear industry and joint venture competition rules in Member States.

**The Nuclear Installation Safety SG** worked on a paper proposing elements to be included in a possible EC Recommendation on harmonised conditions for the safe long-term operation of NPPs. This will be finalised in early 2011.

**The Smart Grids SG** analysed the impact of “super/smart grids” on the role of nuclear power in the electricity generating sector, concluding that it will be limited up to 2020. Since in 2011 the Competitiveness SG will focus on scenarios to support its analysis of the Opportunities and Threats of nuclear energy until 2050, it was agreed that the Competitiveness SG should be responsible for long-term analysis of super/smart grids. As a result, the Smart Grids SG was dissolved.

At the plenary meeting in Bratislava, in May 2010, **the Competitiveness SG** presented the first part of the SWOT Report. With regards to SWOT Part II – *Outlook on opportunities and threats of nuclear energy through*

*the analysis of existing energy scenarios* - the EC commissioned Prognos AG to carry out the scenario comparison in close co-operation with Competitiveness SG Members. The project should be finished in early 2011, in time for the Prague plenary. The opportunities and threats identified have been classified in 5 categories: energy and electricity demand, policy decisions, socio-political context, competitive potential and long-term vision for power technologies.

**The Financing Models SG** worked on providing the EC with information to be included in the upcoming PINC (Nuclear Illustrative Programme of the Commission), which will likely focus on financing issues. It also looked at ways of supporting the financing of nuclear projects in the EU, and will present its recommendations at the Prague plenary.

In July, an **Ad hoc Task Force on EU Energy Strategy 2020** was created. The Task Force drafted a paper highlighting ENEF's views on the key nuclear issues that should be addressed in the EU's energy strategy. The paper was adopted by the Opportunities WG in October.

As a member of **the Transparency Working Group**, FORATOM provided input to the communications dimension of the ENEF process. The T-WG sent ENEF members a questionnaire on best communications practices that FORATOM's members had filled in. Best practice recommendations based on the questionnaire helped promote the nuclear industry's efforts to implement greater transparency.



# SECURITY OF SUPPLY

Following on from the consultation, launched in May, on the stock-taking document called: *Towards a new Energy Strategy for Europe 2011-2020*, to which FORATOM replied, the EC published its proposed action plan on energy entitled:

*A strategy for competitive, sustainable and secure energy.* The plan set out the energy priorities for the next ten years. The so-called 2020 Energy Strategy will be presented to the Council in February 2011, during the first-ever EU Energy Summit. Although the main focus of the document was on energy saving and a pan-European integrated energy market, nuclear energy is highlighted in several places in the document. In particular, it is recognised in two of the five priorities of the new strategy, namely 1). Protecting consumers and achieving the highest level of safety and security and 2). Strengthening the external dimension of the EU energy market.

It is satisfying to note the recognition that the *2020 Energy Strategy* gives to nuclear power, in particular references to the fact that “nuclear energy contributes around one third of the EU’s electricity and two thirds of its CO<sub>2</sub>-free electricity” and that its “existing production capacity needs to be replaced and expanded” so as to sustain that contribution.

The European Parliament (EP) later issued an Opinion on the *2020 Energy Strategy and the Towards a New Energy Strategy for Europe 2011-2020* report was adopted. It stressed the need for the highest possible safety standards for current and future nuclear power plants, both

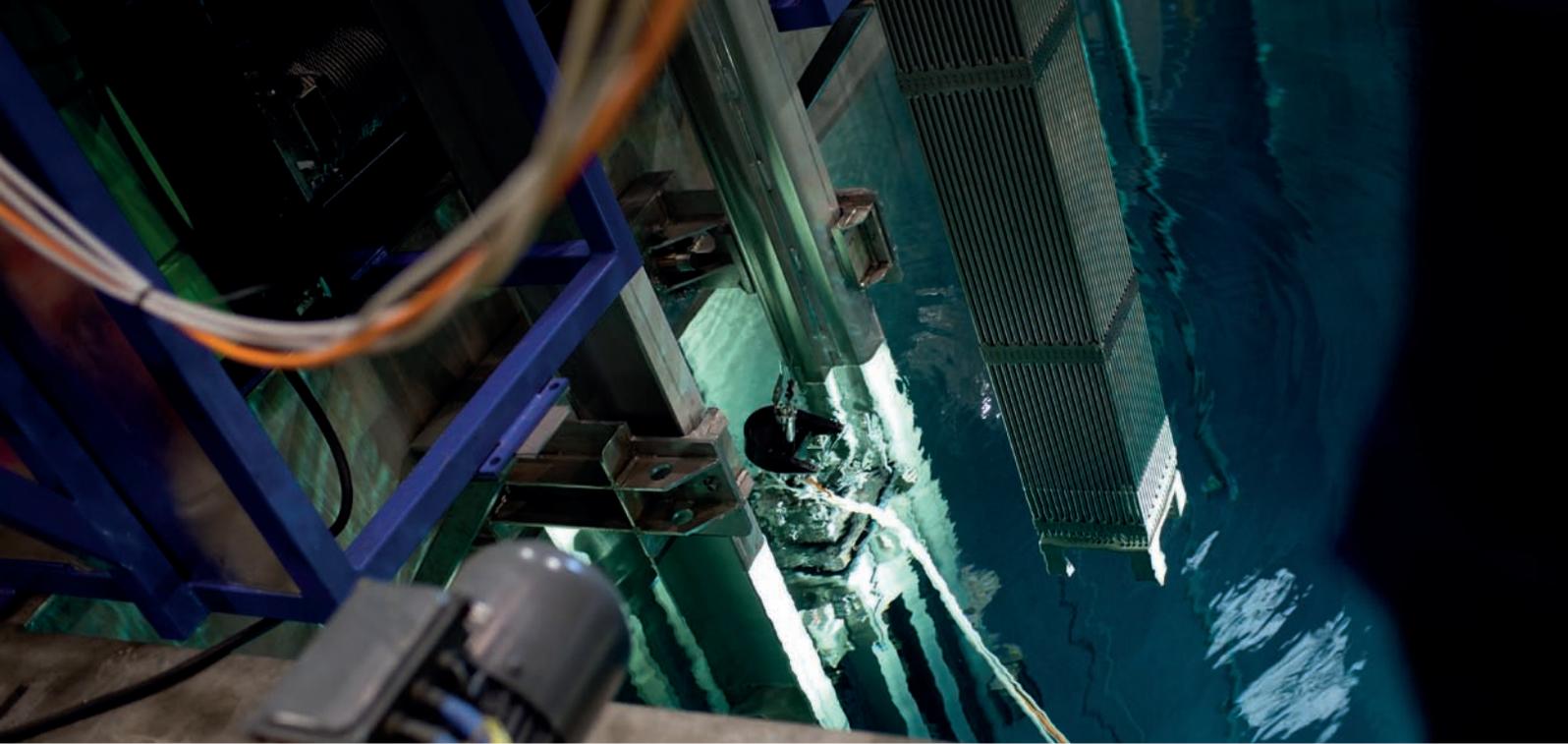
inside and outside the EU. It called for the establishment of minimum EU standards for licensing and design certification for new nuclear power plants.

Between October and December, a consultation period took place, launched by the EC on a *Roadmap for a Low-carbon Economy by 2050*, to which FORATOM responded. In December, the EC also launched a consultation period on an Energy Roadmap 2050. The EC should publish it in the autumn of 2011, following the adoption of the Roadmap for a Low-carbon Economy by 2050, in March 2011.

*The Energy 2050 Roadmap* will outline ways to meet the European Council’s target of an 80-95% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions in the sector by 2050 compared to 1990 levels. It will focus on how to achieve a low-carbon energy system by using all low-carbon energy sources - including nuclear - while improving energy security and competitiveness.

FORATOM’s Ad-hoc 2050 Energy Roadmap Task Force commissioned the Paul Sherrer Institute (Switzerland) to finalise a FORATOM vision report, entitled: *Energy 2050 Roadmap: The contribution of Nuclear Energy*. The report was published in March 2011.

FORATOM is committed to ensuring that nuclear energy’s role as a secure CO<sub>2</sub>-free energy source is highlighted in the *2020 Energy Strategy*, the *Roadmap for low-carbon economy by 2050* and the *2050 Energy Roadmap*.



# RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

The Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7) is the EU's main instrument for funding research. It covers the period from 2007 – 2013. However, the EURATOM part only runs until 2011. A proposal for the extension of the EURATOM part by two years was adopted by the Commission in March 2011. One significant achievement of FORATOM's R&D Task Force (R&DTF) was the finalising, in June, of a position paper on the proposed 2-year extension of the *Euratom 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Fission Research Programme*. The paper outlined the areas the nuclear industry would like to see supported and called for the current annual level of EU funding to at least be maintained.

In 2010, FORATOM continued to play a major role in the management of the Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform (SNETP), with active participation in its Governing Board, Executive Committee and Secretariat. FORATOM was instrumental in the organisation of the SNETP's 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly, as well as in the drafting of the Deployment Strategy document and the production of the first three SNETP factsheets.

FORATOM's Secretariat also contributed to the work of SNETP's Working Group on Education, Training & Knowledge Management and, in particular, to the planning of the ETKM Strategy Document. The R&DTF followed closely the activities of the SNETP throughout the reporting period.

FORATOM took part in discussions on the scope within the Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) of the other nuclear

technology platform, the one on Implementing Geological Disposal (IGD-TP). FORATOM participated in the meetings of the IGD-TP and expects to become a member of the Platform in 2011.

In March, the EP adopted a *Resolution on the Sustainable Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan)*. The Resolution recognises the importance of investing in low-carbon technologies, including nuclear power, in order to meet the EU's energy and climate change targets by 2020. It also recognises how investing in low-carbon technologies will also create jobs, enhance the EU's economic competitiveness and secure its energy supplies. The Resolution stressed the need to increase public and private investment in order to develop those technologies over the next 10 years.

In November, the ESNII (European Sustainable Nuclear Industry Initiative) was launched during the SET-Plan conference. The initiative brings together industry and research partners to promote Europe's leadership in nuclear technology. FORATOM was involved in the development of ESNII through its active participation in the SNETP. Under the umbrella of the SNETP, ESNII will promote the development of Generation IV fast neutron reactors, which will produce more electricity from less uranium and help reduce the amount of resulting radioactive waste. This in turn will sustain the long-term contribution of nuclear power to Europe's low-carbon economy, helping it achieve its climate change and energy goals.



## REGULATORY ISSUES

The harmonising of regulations for the nuclear industry is becoming an increasingly important issue with the liberalisation of the European energy market. This liberalisation has led to the deregulation of electricity generation and supply. The diversity of national regulations could seriously distort competition. As a result, ENISS is deeply committed to co-operating with the Western European Nuclear Regulators Association (WENRA) to promote safety harmonisation.

In January, WENRA issued a report entitled: *Safety Objectives for new Reactors*. Its Reactor Harmonisation Working Group (RHWG) has been working since March 2008 on the formulation of safety objectives for new reactors, so that WENRA members can define a common approach to the safety of new reactors. Stakeholders were invited to provide comments on the report, in particular on the proposed safety objectives, before the end of June 2010.

In November, WENRA released a statement on the safety objectives for new nuclear power plants. The seven qualitative safety objectives that were endorsed by WENRA members will be the basis for further harmonisation work. The safety objectives address new nuclear power plant projects, but they should also be used as a reference for identifying reasonably practicable safety improvements at existing plants. They are formulated in a qualitative manner to promote design enhancement and obtain a higher level of safety compared to existing plants.

In May, WENRA issued a second draft of the *Waste & Spent Fuel Storage Safety Reference Levels* report. Once again it invited stakeholders to give their comments. The final report should be published in March 2011.

As an NGO ENISS is actively involved in the IAEA safety standards revision process by providing comments on draft safety standards and feedback on the experiences gained from applying the IAEA safety standards, in particular those where the industry has particular competence or interest. These areas are NPP design and operation, management systems, assessment and verification, waste management and treatment and safety relating to decommissioning and radiation protection.

In 2010, ENISS gave its comments to the IAEA on safety requirements relating to the following: safety of NPP design, the International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionising Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources and the safety classification of NPPs' structure systems and components. The safety guides on periodic safety reviews at NPPs and on criticality safety were also reviewed. Finally, ENISS sent experts to participate in the IAEA drafting process and attended the meetings of the IAEA Safety Standards Committees as an observer.



# WASTE MANAGEMENT

In November, the EC published a Proposal for a Council Directive on the *Management of Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste*. It proposed an EU framework for the safe management of radioactive waste and spent fuel from nuclear power plants, research facilities, the medical sector and industry. Solutions for the safe long-term management of radioactive waste exist and the proposed EU legal framework will facilitate their implementation. A legally-binding text is important to ensure that all Member States define and implement national long-term radioactive waste management programmes. The Waste Directive Proposal also includes measures to accelerate the implementation of decisions regarding final disposal.

These national programmes should include detailed plans, a timetable and a financing scheme for the construction of final repositories.

The EU's low-level waste, which represents approximately 85% of the total volume of waste, has already been disposed of safely. The Waste Directive Proposal acknowledges that there is a worldwide scientific and technical consensus that deep geological disposal of high-level waste (and spent fuel if considered as waste) is the safest and most sustainable option. Some countries, like Sweden, France and Finland, are developing deep repositories that should be ready to receive spent fuel and radioactive waste for final disposal by 2025.



## PUBLIC OPINION

In April, the *Eurobarometer Survey on Nuclear Safety* was published. It provided a valuable insight into what European citizens think not only about the safety of nuclear energy, but also about its contribution to security of energy supply and the role it plays in Europe's energy future. The results indicated that 59% of respondents were confident in nuclear operators' ability to run nuclear plants safely; 68% believed that nuclear energy helps reduce the EU's dependence upon gas and oil, thereby enhancing security of energy supply and 56% wanted nuclear energy to be maintained or increased (up 8% on the 2007 survey results).

In general, the more citizens know about nuclear energy, the more they are in favour of it. However, 74% of those

surveyed said that they didn't know enough about it. The industry is committed to participating in the stakeholder dialogue on all aspects relating to nuclear energy in order to bridge this knowledge gap. This includes doing more to inform citizens that solutions for the safe and efficient management of radioactive waste exist and are being put into practice in a number of countries. It must be noted that 82% European citizens said that nuclear waste management should be regulated at EU level. This is consistent with the EC's approach.

Before the survey was carried out FORATOM was invited to give its comments on the questionnaire. These comments, which were put together in cooperation with NICE, were sent to DG ENER.

## THE IMPACT OF FUKUSHIMA ON PUBLIC OPINION

Since the annual report was written, the nuclear accident that happened at Fukushima in Japan has had an impact on public opinion in Europe regarding nuclear power. Though it is still difficult to assess this impact in the long-term, we can already say that the results of opinion polls carried out throughout the European Union show that it is very country specific. In countries with a strong anti-nuclear culture like Germany and Switzerland opposition to nuclear has risen sharply, while in others where new build plans are under way, like the United Kingdom or France, a majority of the population still backs the use of nuclear power.

# FORATOM EVENTS IN 2010

In 2010, FORATOM organised a number of events. These events, which included conferences, seminars, press briefings, press visits and workshops, involved discussions with the EU Institutions and other stakeholders on the latest policy developments and the main issues driving them. They were organised either solely by FORATOM or in cooperation with key partners, like the European Economic and Social Committee, the Council of Europe, the IAEA, the OECD-NEA or individual member companies. Here is a run-down of the events that punctuated the calendar:

**13 January**, Fourth FORATOM EU Affairs Course: aimed at giving members insight into how the European institutions and the political and legislative processes in Brussels work.

**14 -17 February**, PIME 2010 (Budapest): a unique annual international conference for nuclear communicators across the world.

**29 April**, Thematic Press Briefing on the Long-term Operation of NPPs.

**7 May**, MEPs and their assistants visit to SCK-CEN.

**11-12 May**, European Nuclear Assembly (ENA): *Delivering Solutions*, FORATOM's flag ship biannual conference aimed at Europe's policy-makers, movers and shakers. 150 people attended from across the world. The main topics covered were political change, climate change, the economic and social credentials of nuclear, waste management and investment.

Among the speakers were government ministers, senior EC officials, MEPs, regulators, NGOs, industry leaders, academics and the media. The 50th anniversary of FORATOM was marked during a Gala Dinner.

**16 June**, FORATOM Workshop on Non-proliferation.

**29 June**, Press visit to the Chooz A plant (France), which is currently being decommissioned.

**24 September**, MEP assistants visit to Westinghouse (Nivelles).

**16 October**, Press Visit to SCK-CEN (Belgium's national nuclear research centre) and Belgoprocess.

**25-27 October**, Workshop on waste management and technical visit to Olkiluoto NPP (Finland), in cooperation with Finnish Energy Industries.

**8 November**, Workshop on Nuclear Waste: Improving Public Acceptance: organised in partnership with EESC.

**12 November**, MEPs and their assistants (S&D group only) visit to COVRA.

**17-19 November**, 10th Joint FORATOM/IAEA Workshop: *Implementing a Successful Management System*.

**24 November**, Joint FORATOM/ENS Workshop on nuclear in the US.

**25-26 November**, Conference: *Nuclear Energy and its Impact upon the Economy, Safety and Climate Change*: organised by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in cooperation with FORATOM (Strasbourg).



# PUBLICATIONS

2010 saw a number of new additions to FORATOM's list of publications. These publications, which are constantly updated and revised, are primarily targeted at European decision-makers and stakeholders. They were also distributed to the press and made available to the general public via the website.

## FACT SHEETS

The following factsheets were created in 2010, distributed to the press at press events, to members and put online: *The Socio-Economic Benefits of Nuclear*, *Nuclear Energy: A major Asset in the Fight against Climate Change*, *Public Opinion and Nuclear Energy* and *The Nuclear Industry's Safety and its Response in Case of Accidents*. FORATOM also issued an updated information paper on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions avoidance in Europe.

## ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

A special publication entitled *The 50 Years' History of FORATOM: 1960-2010* was published and sent to members, senior EU officials and VIPs, to mark the celebration of FORATOM's fiftieth birthday.

## POSITION PAPERS

In June, FORATOM's R&D Task Force (R&DTF) finalised a position paper on the proposed 2-year extension of the Euratom 7th Framework Fission Research Programme. The paper outlined the nuclear industry's priority areas for research funding.

## PRESS RELEASES

In 2010, the following FORATOM press releases were distributed to the Brussels-based media and to the membership:

- Nuclear back on track as ban is lifted in Sweden
- Germany opts to extend life of its NPPs
- Finnish government decision to build two more nuclear reactors in Finland
- The adoption of an EC Proposal for a Radioactive Waste Directive
- Central role given to nuclear in EC's 2020 energy strategy
- Finnish Parliament approves new nuclear reactors
- Eurobarometer Survey on nuclear safety
- IEAE/NEA study on competitiveness of nuclear energy
- Guenther Oettinger nominated EU Energy Commissioner
- COP 15 talks in Copenhagen

You can find all FORATOM's press releases on the website by going to: [http://www.foratom.org/download-center/cat\\_view/262-press-room/1076-press-releases.html](http://www.foratom.org/download-center/cat_view/262-press-room/1076-press-releases.html)



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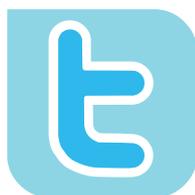
In 2010, FORATOM also got directly involved in social media interfaces, with the creation of a Facebook page and a Twitter account.



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2011

2013

2014

2012

## FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

The year 2011 should see a number of policy initiatives come to fruition and key pieces of European legislation adopted. Among the highlights will be the following:

The adoption of the Directive on Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste will enable member countries to put in place national waste management programmes that will provide political endorsement of the technical solutions that already exist for managing radioactive waste and spent fuel.

Nuclear energy produces two thirds of the CO<sub>2</sub>-free electricity generated in Europe. The adoption of the 2050 Low-carbon Economy Roadmap in 2011 will further emphasise the important role that nuclear energy plays in Europe's low-carbon economy future.

A Proposal for a Revised Directive on Basic Safety Standards will underline the non-negotiable fact that safety is, and always will be, the nuclear industry's main priority. The harmonisation of safety standards across Europe should further reinforce the industry's strong safety culture, enhance its reputation and help increase public acceptance of nuclear energy.

The 2050 Energy Roadmap will underline how important it is to maintain the share of nuclear energy in the EU's overall energy mix (currently just under 30%), thereby ensuring that Europe has a competitive, sustainable and secure energy supply.

2011 should see the publication of the latest PINC document (Nuclear Illustrative Programme of the European Commission). This should focus Member States' attention on the need to invest in and finance nuclear new build, ultimately supporting the goal of maintaining nuclear energy's 27,8% share of Europe's energy mix.

In 2010, FORATOM's R&D Task Force (RDTF) issued a position paper recommending that current levels of funding for fission research under the Euratom 7th Framework Fission Research Programme (FP7) on nuclear research should at least be maintained. In 2011, the extension of the programme should help to sustain Europe's world leadership in cutting-edge nuclear research and technology.

The main focus for FORATOM in 2011 will be managing the aftermath of the Fukushima accident, which will continue to drive the political debate and impact upon public opinion. The international spotlight on the nuclear industry is now greater than ever before. The lessons of the accident must be learnt. In light of the on-going situation in Japan, European utilities have already begun reassessing the safety of their nuclear power plants, as part of a broader approach of continuous safety assessment and enhancement. This process should continue throughout 2011 and beyond and help highlight to decision-makers and the public how safety has always been, and will always remain, our top priority.

FORATOM, acting on behalf of its members, will continue to strive to influence policy development and provide input to the decision-making process, thereby ensuring that the European nuclear industry's voice is heard as loud in 2011 as it was in 2010.

2015

2017

2016

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FORATOM is grateful for the invaluable cooperation it received in the organisation of events during the course of 2010 from the following international organisations and institutions:



EUROPEAN NUCLEAR SOCIETY



IAEA  
International Atomic Energy Agency



OECD Nuclear Energy Agency



NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE



European Economic and Social Committee



COUNCIL OF EUROPE  
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

FORATOM has a strong commitment to transparency and is registered in the European Commission's voluntary database of lobbying organisations.

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