

"Nuclear energy: Riding the winds of change"

Second bi-annual conference on 28-29 March 2006 Marriott Hotel, Brussels, Belgium

Rising oil and gas prices are unsustainable. Climate change continues to threaten the environment. Energy demand continues to spiral. The current energy mix cannot adequately meet that demand, so the specter of power cuts and black-outs could return to haunt us.

The scenario is a familiar one. The economic and environmental challenges remain the same. But the energy debate has a new sense of direction and impetus. Economists, scientists, politicians and environmentalists are increasingly recognizing that nuclear energy is the only major energy source that can provide a secure supply of affordable and environmentally-friendly electricity. The time is ripe for the nuclear community to seize the initiative.

The European Nuclear Assembly (ENA), a biannual conference organized by FORATOM, provides an ideal opportunity for politicians, industry experts, scientists and stakeholder representatives from around the world to discuss the nuclear issues that really count and to focus not on problems, but on solutions. It also provides the nuclear community with a platform for stating the nuclear case loud and clear and for communicating to policy-makers and the public the message that nuclear energy is a central part of the solution.

Note down the dates in your diary now and make sure that you are part of the debate on the present and the future of the nuclear industry.

Who should attend?

MEPs - officials from the European Commission - Permanent Representatives from the Member States - journalists - the CEOs, directors and managers of nuclear powergenerating companies - energy and business policy-makers.

Conference President

Mike PARKER, CEO of the British Nuclear Fuels plc.

Conference Venue

Marriott Hotel

Media

Journalists are welcome to attend the ENA, during which a press conference will also take place.



2006

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME (The programme below is subject to change.)

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Tuesday 28 March 2006	
09:00 - 10:30	Plenary Session: Keynote presentations from representatives of the European Parliament, the European Commission and the nuclear industry .
11:00 - 12:30	"Nuclear new build in Europe and Worldwide": A Ministerial Roundtable discussion featuring presentations from ministers from Poland, UK, Germany, Belgium and USA.
	Moderator: journalist
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch / Press conference
14:00 - 15:30	Panel debate 1: "Nuclear energy: applying the EU's Lisbon Strategy"
	The EU's Lisbon Strategy focuses on competitiveness, combating climate change and promoting research excellence. Consequently, nuclear energy is once again in the spotlight because it is a reliable and competitive source of power generation, a major employer and a leader in the fight against climate change. So, it supports the Lisbon Strategy and the three pillars of sustainable development.
	MEPs, senior officials from the European Commission, academics, and industry representatives assess nuclear's contribution to making the Strategy work
	Moderator: journalist
16:00 - 17:30	Panel debate 2: "Is the market ready to invest in nuclear?"
	As the winds of change continue to blow in favour of nuclear energy and more and more countries are choosing to build nuclear plants, the industry is once again perceived as a growth sector. But is the global financial market ready to invest big-time in a bright nuclear tomorrow? MEPs, officials international organizations, financial gurus and industry representatives debate this crucial question.
	Moderator: journalist
19:00 - 22:30	Cocktail and dinner
Wednesday 29 March 2006	
9:00 - 10:30	Plenary Session: Keynote presentations from an environmentalist and a senior official from the European Commission and from a Member State.
11:00 - 12:00	Panel debate 3: "Public perception: a catalyst for political action."
	As public opinion continues to evolve favourably with regards to nuclear energy, ENA analyses the impact of public opinion on decision-makers and how they ignore it at their peril. A panel including MEPs, European Commission officials, an NGO, waste management professionals and a sociologist make the link between public perception and political reality.
	Moderator: journalist
12:00 - 13:00	Panel debate 4: "Harmonizing standards, increasing safety"
	The harmonization of safety standards, whether on a national, EU or international level, is a priority. But what is the best path to follow? MEPs, European Commission officials, regulators and industry experts examine whether increased harmony means increased safety.
	Moderator: journalist
13.00:	Closing remarks by the conference chairman - Lunch

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Confirmed Speakers

Conference Chairman: Mike PARKER- CEO- BNFL

Confirmed speakers: Andris PIEBALGS - EU Commissioner for Energy - European Commission

Dr. e. h. Adolf BIRKHOFER - Managing Director ISaR GmbH Dr Fatih BIROL - Chief Economist - International Energy Agency Nil BOHMER - Policy Advisor - BELLONA Europe Michel CATINAT - Head of Unit E1 - DG Enterprise- European Commission Philippe d'IRIBARNE - French Sociologist - CNRS Elizabeth DOWDESWELL - President Nuclear Waste Management Organisation - Canada Luis E. ECHAVARRI - Director General - NEA/OECD Ragnar E LOFSTEDT - Director, King's College, Centre of Risk Management - London Helmut. ENGELBRECHT - CEO URENCO Pierre GADONNEIX - Chairman and CEO - EDF Eduardo GONZALEZ GOMEZ - Chairman of Steering Committee - European Nuclear Installations Safety Standards Walter HOHLEFELDER - Member of the management Board - E-ON Energy AG Karl-Frederik INGEMARSSON - Senior Advisor - Vattenfall AB Prof Mikko KARA - Executive Director - Technical Research Centre of Finland (VTT) Vincent MAUREL - President and CEO - FRAMATOME ANP Judith MELIN - President, WENRA Michel Poireau - Head of Unit - DG RTD- European Commission Joseph POSPISIL - nuclear-industry expert - Fitchratings London Roland SCHENKEL - Director General, the Joint Research Centre (JRC) Pertti SIMOLA - CEO TVO Alan SVOBODA - Member of the Board CEZ Christian WAETERLOOS - Director for Nuclear Energy- DG TREN - European Commission

Background Note

European Nuclear Assembly 2004

The inaugural European Nuclear Assembly (ENA) that took place in Brussels in November 2004 was a resounding success. 219 high-level delegates, including senior officials from the European institutions, industry experts, lobbyists and journalists, attended this biannual FORATOM event.

The main theme of ENA 2004 was "Nuclear: An essential option for Europe." The agenda centred on key topics like the economic and environmental dimensions of nuclear energy and a pan-European approach to safety.

One of the main deliverables to emerge from ENA 2004 was the signing of a "Declaration on Europe's future use of nuclear energy for power generation" by leaders of Europe's major power-generating companies. The occasion was marked by a press conference during which leading European industry leaders and signatories to the Declaration fielded questions from more than 20 journalists. The Declaration reiterated how nuclear energy is the largest single supplier of electricity and the most reliable, affordable and environmentally-friendly major energy source. It also underlined the European nuclear industry's shared conviction, solidarity and optimism about the future. Subsequent press coverage was considerable.

Two years later, the words of the Declaration still ring true. The sense of optimism and conviction that it expressed then appears fully justified today, as a resurgence of interest in the nuclear option, fuelled largely by the climate change debate, has forced many politicians to review their energy and environmental policies.

Now it's up to ENA 2006 to build on the momentum of 2004!

www.ena2006.org

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Conference Venue "Marriott Hotel"

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The Brussels Marriott borders on the rue Antoine Dansaert, where many of Belgium's top designers have taken up residence, you can't get closer than this to the Grand Place, city's array of sumptuous restaurants, stylish shopping, and cultural offerings.



Online registration http://www.ena2006.org

For further information concerning the event, please contact

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