Happy New Year!

The European Energy Forum team wishes you a happy New Year!

With your contribution, we have prepared an interesting agenda for 2011 and we are looking forward to seeing you at our events and to having fruitful debates on energy issues!

Internal meetings

2011/02/16 Bureau Meeting: President, Treasurer, Vice-Presidents and EEF Secretariat attend.

2011/03/09 Board Meeting: President, Treasurer, Vice-Presidents, Directors and EEF Secretariat attend.

2011/03/23 ITAC Meeting: President, Treasurer, Vice-Presidents, Directors, Active and Associate members and EEF Secretariat attend.

2011/04/06 General Assembly: Active Members and EEF Secretariat attend.

(Invitations will be sent in due time to those invited.)

Upcoming events

2011/01/26 Dinner-debate Brussels — The path to decarbonising the heat sector, at the invitation of COGEN Europe

2011/01/27-28 Delegation visit to France to Flamanville 3 NPP construction site and La Hague recycling plant, at the invitation of AREVA and EDF

2011/02/15 Dinner-debate Strasbourg — A truly Europeanized energy Policy until 2020: The consumer perspective, at the invitation of CEFIC and Fertilizers Europe

2011/03/08 Dinner-debate Strasbourg — Achieving the energy efficiency targets: The key role of innovative energy supply companies, at the invitation of EWE

2011/03/14 Dinner-debate Brussels — Energy Infrastructures, at the invitation of RTE

2011/04/12 Dinner-debate Brussels — Offshore wind energy : realising the potential, at the invitation of AREVA
Fennovoima Oy, a Finnish nuclear power company, joins the EEF in January 2011. Fennovoima submitted its application for the Decision-in-Principle to the Finnish Government in January 2009. The Finnish Government and Parliament granted Fennovoima the Decision-in-Principle in 2010. Fennovoima will build a max 1,800 megawatt nuclear power plant in Northern Finland in order to produce electricity for its shareholders at cost price. Each owner will get the share of capacity proportional to its ownership in the company. The site for the plant will be selected in 2011, the plant design in 2012 and the operation of the plant is planned to start in 2020.

The EEF contact person is Henri Satuli, EU Representative Tel. +32 475 694 026; euoffice@fennovoima.fi

In September 2010, the office of Lambert van Nistelrooij welcomed a new colleague: Joël Meggelaars (left on picture), who recently graduated in International and European Law, has joined the team and will focus on energy issues.

Esther Boer (right on picture) holds MA degrees in Political Science & American Studies and deals with regional development and innovation matters.

Furthermore, Marijn Verhees, who has been a member of the team for four years, focuses on all issues concerning the digital agenda.
News from the European Union
The EEF follows major EU long-lasting decisions

Energy – a top priority of the Hungarian Presidency of the EU

Hungary plans to concentrate on the EU energy policy as it takes on the EU's rotating presidency in January. During the Hungarian Presidency several strategic issues will be at the centre of attention that will define the directions of the European energy policy for the next decade:

- the Energy 2020 medium-term energy strategy for the period 2011-2020,
- the blueprint of the integrated European energy network (energy infrastructure priorities until 2020 and after),

Hungarian Presidency agenda on energy:

- 4/02/2011: Special EU summit to discuss energy and innovation issues (draft agenda)
- 2-3/05/2011: Informal meeting of the EU energy ministers

EU Competition and Economic Matters

2010/12/03 Conclusions of the Council meeting
Transport, Telecommunications, Energy:

The Council adopted conclusions on energy policy for consumers. The conclusions follow the debate on consumer-related aspects of European energy policy at the informal energy ministers meeting of September 2010.

It also adopted conclusions on safety of offshore oil and gas activities. Building on the Commission communication on this issue, following the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig disaster in the Gulf of Mexico in April 2010, the Council sets out a way forward for possible further action in relation to offshore exploration and production of hydrocarbons, notably to ensure highest possible safety and protection of the environment as well as provisions for liability.

2010/12/08 Wholesale energy markets: Commission proposes rules to prevent market abuse:

The European Commission has proposed rules on wholesale energy markets to prevent market manipulation and insider trading. The Proposal for a Regulation on Energy market integrity and transparency seeks to ensure market transparency by obliging energy traders to respect clear market rules. Wholesale markets, where gas and electricity is traded between companies producing energy and traders, are key to the prices consumers finally pay.

2010/12/15 Revision of the Energy Efficiency Action Plan:

The European Parliament voted for a binding energy saving target of "at least 20%" by 2020 when it approved a resolution aiming to influence the EU's forthcoming new Energy Efficiency Action Plan. The Parliament's resolution urges the EU executive to prioritise enforcing existing legislation and assess how it is being implemented.

2010/12/15 Commission’s draft decision determining transitional EU-wide rules for the harmonised free allocation of emission allowances:

The Commission approved a new regulatory regime for dispensing around 100 billion euros of carbon permits (pursuant to Article 10a of Directive 2003/87/EC), granting steelmakers and oil refineries free emission allowances in an effort to shield them
from international competition after 2012. The Commission’s draft decision can be found [here](#).

**Security of Supply, Sustainable Development**

**2010/12/07 European Commission proposes to strengthen regional cooperation:**

Cross-border regional energy cooperation delivers lower prices and higher security of supply, and is a crucial building block of a competitive European Single Energy Market. The European Commissions Communication *The future Role of Regional Initiatives* identifies new tasks of Regional Initiatives (development of cross-border infrastructure and the implementation of the Third Energy Package, including network codes) and proposes a new governance structure of existing Regional Initiatives and an adjustment to their geographical scope to make regional cooperation more effective. Regulators, transmission systems operators and other stakeholders are invited to express their views on these ideas by the 15th of February 2011.

**Disposal of radioactive waste in accordance with Article 37 of the Euratom Treaty**

**2010/12/21 Commission opinion relating to the plan for the disposal of radioactive waste arising from the Buffer Store for very low-level radioactive waste, located on the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant site in Lithuania:**

The Commission is of the opinion that the implementation of the plan for the disposal of radioactive waste in whatever form arising from the Buffer Store for very low-level radioactive waste located on the site of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant in Lithuania, both in normal operation and in the event of an accident of the type and magnitude considered in the General Data, is not liable to result in the radioactive contamination of the water, soil or airspace of another Member State.

**EU Renewable sector**

**2010/12/22 Biofuels: Commission adopts Report on indirect land use change:**

The Commission published a [report](#) on indirect land use change related to biofuels and bioliquids. The report acknowledges that indirect land use change can reduce greenhouse gas emissions savings associated with biofuels, but also identifies a number of uncertainties associated with the available models. The report announces that the Commission will conduct an impact assessment, thereby taking into consideration potential changes to the existing legislation. If needed, the Commission will recommend to address this issue under a precautionary approach. In addition the Commission will continue to conduct work in this area in order to ensure that policy decisions are based on the best available science and to meet its future reporting obligations on this matter.

**EU Major International Relations - Euro-Med Energy Partnership**

**2010/12/10 Green growth: EUR 313m for energy performance and public transport in Tunisia:**

The visit to Tunisia of Philippe de Fontaine Vive, Vice-President of the European Investment Bank (EIB) with responsibility for FEMIP (Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership), was marked by the signature of two new loans totalling EUR 313m in support of public transport and energy performance in Tunisia. On this visit, a EUR 6.8m technical assistance agreement for the road sector was also signed.

**EC public consultations:**

*The external dimension of the EU energy policy*
Consultation period: 21/12/2010 to 21/02/2011
More information is available [here](#).

*Energy Roadmap 2050*
Consultation period: 20/12/2010 to 07/03/2011
More information is available [here](#).
International Energy Agency (IEA) activity
2010/12/17 Global Energy Efficiency Governance study released:

The International Energy Agency (IEA) published the results of its global Energy Efficiency Governance study as a summary handbook and a detailed report. This study aims to provide government officials and stakeholders with guidance on how to establish effective structures to promote energy efficiency. It highlights the importance of developing legal, institutional, funding and coordination mechanisms to support national and sub-national energy efficiency policy implementation.

“This study is extremely valuable to supporting the implementation of good energy efficiency policies around the world,” said Nobuo Tanaka, IEA Executive Director.

Information for the study was gathered from 175 energy efficiency professionals in 70 countries.

2010/12/10 Latest News on World Energy Outlook 2010:

IEA Chief Economist Fatih Birol travelled to Rome for the Italian launch of the World Energy Outlook 2010. The event was hosted by Enel's CEO and General Manager, Fulvio Conti, with the participation among others of Undersecretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Vincenzo Scotti, and Undersecretary of Ministry for Economic Development, Stefano Saglia. Over 250 participants attended from government, industry, academia and the press.

International Energy Agency (IEA) activity
2010/12/11 OPEC 158th (Extraordinary) Meeting concludes:

[…] Having reviewed the oil market outlook, including the overall demand/supply projections for the year 2011, the Conference observed that the increase in the annual average oil demand in 2011 is likely to be lower than in 2010. This expectation of lower demand growth is coupled with challenging risks to the fragile global economic recovery, including the adverse effect of possible currency conflicts and fears of a second banking crisis in Europe, all of which would negatively impact on oil demand. With the OECD still facing lower industrial output, lagging private consumption as well as persistently high unemployment, and with ample spare capacity throughout the oil supply chain, the Conference agreed to maintain current oil production levels. […]