

ENEF

European Nuclear Energy Forum

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2007 European summit

**European Commission to organise a
"broad" discussion among relevant
stakeholders on the opportunities and
risks of nuclear energy.**



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ENEF set up

- ENEF Plenary

- 26/27 November 2007, Bratislava
- 22/23 May 2008, Prague
- 3/4 Nov 2008, Bratislava
- Next: 28/29 May, Prague

3 working groups (Risk, Opportunities, Transparency) with several subgroups



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- Sub working group harmonisation
result: does not fulfil the ENEF mandate of
“The adoption of EU legislation on nuclear safety and waste management - based on common fundamental safety principles for nuclear installations - received strong support from the Forum. In particular for new build, the reference should be the highest standards of safety and security available, based upon Best Available Technology (BAT) and best practices in this field, including Best Regulatory Practice (BRP).”



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Interesting observations I made

- differing interests
- the host countries or rather their prime ministers consider the ENEF clearly a nuclear promotion tool:
 - opening of MO 34 construction the morning the ENEF started in Bratislava in November 3 and 4 in 2008
 - EU Commission TREN does have interest in keeping NGOs in the process and partly also in achieving higher nuclear safety standards as well as decommissioning funds or higher transparency concerning EURATOM; however, the Commission would have to fight for this against the member states and industry and seems not to have the strategy nor the power to do so (Arhus)
 - utilities do not believe in a nuclear renaissance but only need to gather political support to keep their currently existing fleets (including revision of phase out in Germany and PLEX all over Europe) and all their privileges (lax safety, low liability, strong political support which is key)
 - Industry needs to gain more political support: gain zero carbon energy status
 - Reactor technology export support for export at any costs ignoring obvious proliferation risks



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- What could be seen as progress:
- NGO are represented
- they are taken seriously in direct communication/contact
- the FoEE suggestion to include the issue of non-proliferation in the working group “RISK” , though it took over one year install it – “turn-key”



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What actually did not change:

- open discussion is not taking place - key issues are avoided (waste, economic problems, liability) are discussed with the usual limiting conditions and taboos, no solutions “roadmaps”
- the assumption that information (colourful brochures) would already fulfil the definition of transparency or even public participation
- still industry dominated process



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- E.g. non proliferation group
 - fuel bank (in cooperation with IAEA)
- to decrease nonproliferation risk in „certain“ countries and make export in particular for AREVA possible (UAE, Lybia, Tunisia etc.)



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- Waste report crucial for assessing NGO role and participation at ENEF in Prague end of May
“We would like to break the silent agreement of simply accepting the unacceptable – that nuclear power usage continues or plans are put forward for new reactors – though there is no credible solution for nuclear waste. It is a fact that after almost 60 years of commercial nuclear power generation there is not final repository in place.” FOEE Comment



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Tendencies of the waste report:

„shared repository“ (out for now)

„best“ deep geological repository (no other idea!)

no deadlines, only roadmap as a goal

public participation recommended, no clear rules on anything however



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- The impression that the forum is just another talkshop is eminent, not only to NGOs who are considering to leave the Forum unless considerable changes, clear rules and goals are established soon.
„First step“ policy is not acceptable after 1,5 years .

Thanks for your attention!