Nuclear Energy Summit - 2026

Nuclear Industry Statement

10 March 2026 | Paris, France

Preamble

We, the Nuclear Industry Associations of countries or representing businesses in countries operating nuclear power, developing or considering civil nuclear capacities, representing diverse economic and industrial trajectories, gathered in Paris on March 10th, 2026, for the second edition of the Nuclear Energy Summit under the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) high patronage, we, in a global context marked by intensifying climate disruption impacts, and steadily rising energy demand, reaffirm our shared commitment to nuclear energy as a vital pillar of sustainable, secure, and resilient energy systems.

We are delighted that more countries share a common vision in favour of developing nuclear energy, and we welcome the role played by the IAEA in coordinating the respective approaches to developing nuclear energy safely and efficiently.

We recognise that nuclear energy is a strategic lever for simultaneously addressing climate challenges, environmental protection, economic and social development, and the energy stability and security of States. Its development and integration into energy mixes depend on inseparable conditions, including the establishment of appropriate and sustainable financing frameworks and continued investment in training, skills development and human capacity building. Nuclear energy meets current and future energy needs and enables the development of numerous non-energy applications.

Nuclear energy and the reduction of carbon intensity in energy systems

We emphasise the role of nuclear energy as a key solution to progressively reduce the carbon intensity of energy systems while ensuring reliable, continuous, and large-scale electricity generation. The transition toward lower-carbon energy systems must be just, orderly, and equitable, considering national capacities, development priorities, and socio-economic realities. Nuclear energy represents, in this regard, a structural tool to support energy diversification and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

Climate action

The last edition of NES confirmed the need to mobilise low-carbon solutions capable of reconciling decarbonisation, energy security and economic development. We affirm our support for the government and industry declarations to triple nuclear energy worldwide by 2050 and emphasise that nuclear energy is an indispensable lever for achieving carbon neutrality, stabilising electricity systems and supporting the long-term energy transition.

Nuclear power and contribution to economic development

We also reaffirm that access to reliable, affordable, and continuous energy is a fundamental pillar of economic and social development, industrialisation, job creation, and inequality reduction. In this context, nuclear energy represents a structuring driver of economic development. It contributes to economic competitiveness, electricity price stability, industrial sovereignty, and the creation of highly skilled jobs across the entire value chain, from research and engineering to operation and decommissioning. Investments in nuclear energy also foster long-term planning, technological innovation, and workforce development.

Innovation and tomorrow's energy needs

By providing controllable, reliable, and low-carbon electricity, nuclear power makes a decisive contribution to the resilience, stability, and sustainability of energy systems. Small modular reactors (SMRs) and advanced modular reactors (AMRs), alongside large power reactors, open new possibilities in terms of flexibility, gradual deployment, adaptation to local needs and integration into existing infrastructure. These technologies also make it possible to broaden the uses of nuclear power, thereby strengthening the ability of countries to meet current and future energy needs in a safe and sustainable manner.

We would like to emphasise that nuclear energy is not limited to electricity generation. It can be used to develop numerous non-energy applications, providing innovative solutions to major challenges facing our societies. Nuclear energy offers significant prospects for carbon-free hydrogen production, industrial and district heating, and seawater desalination. In the field of health, it plays an essential role through nuclear medicine, radiotherapy and the production of radioisotopes, which are indispensable for the diagnosis and treatment of many diseases. Nuclear energy also contributes to the space, industrial, agricultural and research sectors, particularly through materials analysis, food preservation and environmental monitoring.

Sustainable financing

We reaffirm that sustainable and predictable financing is a key factor in the planning, implementation, and sustainability of civil nuclear programmes. Nuclear infrastructure, characterised by long life cycles and high capital intensity, requires appropriate financial frameworks.

In this regard, equitable access to national, regional, and international financing mechanisms, as well as recognition of the role of nuclear power in long-term energy strategies, are essential to support the necessary investments, ensure the continued operation of existing facilities and enable the deployment of new capacity.

Education and operational excellence

We affirm that human resource development, education, training, and skills maintenance are fundamental to ensuring the safe, secure, and peaceful use of nuclear energy and to securing the development of new construction programmes. Strengthening national capabilities, transferring knowledge, promoting a strong safety culture, and supporting research, development and innovation are essential to ensuring the quality of the design, construction, operation, and decommissioning of nuclear facilities.

Energy security and resilience

In the context of increased volatility in energy markets and growing vulnerabilities in supply chains, we stress the need to strengthen energy security at the national, regional, and global levels.

The development, maintenance, and expansion of civil nuclear capacities make an essential contribution to energy security. Nuclear energy provides dispatchable and continuous power generation, reduces dependence on fossil fuel imports, and enhances the resilience of energy systems to geopolitical, climatic, and economic shocks.

In this regard, international cooperation, particularly within the framework of the relevant multilateral organisations, plays a significant role in supporting States in the sustainable development of their nuclear programmes, in accordance with internationally recognised safety, security and safeguards standards.

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