



Press Release EUFORES

Brussels, 4th February 2010

EUFORES General Assembly elects its new Board of Presidents

New President of EUFORES is Claude Turmes, elected Vice-Presidents are Fiona Hall and Anni Podimata. Former EUFORES President Mechtild Rothe has been awarded the title of "EUFORES Honorary President".

The new Board of Presidents of EUFORES was elected in the European Parliament on 2nd February 2010. EUFORES Presidents election is held within one year after the European election, and only active Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) can be elected by the parliamentary members of EUFORES.

Claude Turmes (MEP Luxembourg, Greens/EFA) is the new elected **President of EUFORES**. After having held the position of Vice-President since 2003, he is now continuing the work of **former EUFORES President Mechtild Rothe**. Referring to the role of EUFORES he said: "EUFORES offers a special network whose link to the national Members of Parliament is of great importance. To bring those different actors together is one of EUFORES major strengths."

Fiona Hall (MEP UK, Liberal & Democrats), has been re-elected **Vice-President of EUFORES**, a position she has held since 2008. "EUFORES is a great opportunity to stay committed to renewable energy sources which - besides helping to combat climate change and increasing energy security - offer such great economic potential."

Completing the Board of Presidents, **Anni Podimata** (MEP Greece, Socialists & Democrats) has been elected **Vice-President**. Among other she emphasised the great team spirit of the EUFORES team as well as pointing out: "EUFORES is a cross-party network. And cross-party support is absolute essential to obtain strong policies in the renewable and energy efficiency sectors."

During the General Assembly meeting, **Mechtild Rothe was awarded the title "Honorary President" of EUFORES**. She was President of EUFORES from 2003-2010 and a Member of the European Parliament from 1984-2009. The General Assembly thanks her for all the years of dedication to EUFORES and her inspiring work for a sustainable energy future. **Mechtild Rothe** stressed the very positive development of EUFORES during the last years: "I would really like to thank **Jan Geiss**, Secretary General of EUFORES, for his great commitment over the last years."

Background information

EUFORES - European Forum for Renewable Energy Sources

- European Parliamentarians for a Sustainable Energy Future –

EUFORES is a European parliamentary network with Members from all major political groups in the European Parliament as well as in the national EU Member States Parliaments. EUFORES' core objective is the promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency in Europe.

EUFORES is an independent, non-profit organisation founded 1995 by Members of Parliament and other key actors and is today a leading promoter of renewable energy and energy efficiency.



Anni Podimata, Claude Turmes, Mechtild Rothe, Fiona Hall