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From: General Secretariat of the Council
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Debrief of the SET-Plan Conference
(Helsinki, 13-15 November 2019)
- Information from the Presidency

Delegations will find in Annex an information note from the Presidency.

The SET-Plan Conference

The 13th annual SET-Plan Conference organised by the European Commission and the Finnish Presidency took place in Helsinki on 13–15 November 2019. The conference gathered around 450 participants and focused on research and innovation in the energy sector to enhance European industrial leadership.

The individual sessions addressed, among other topics, the decarbonisation of industry, sector coupling and developments in renewable energy. Financing of low-carbon technologies, nuclear innovation and the role of women in clean energy were also discussed.

With the EU's clean energy package and the Paris Agreement in place, the focus is now on the implementation. The EU Member States' 2030 National Energy and Climate Plans (NECP) and the 2050 long-term strategies (LTS) under the Paris Agreement aim to identify pathways to reach the agreed climate goals. Research and innovation, new technologies and improvements to existing ones are essential for a quick and profound transition towards a climate neutral economy.

The European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) was established to accelerate the transformation of the European energy system and to bring new low-carbon energy technologies to market. It identifies actions for research and innovation throughout the whole innovation chain. The SET-Plan conferences offer an opportunity for decision-makers, researchers and stakeholders to get together and evaluate the progress made towards achieving the SET-Plan's goals. The SET-Plan is a key part of the fifth pillar of the Energy Union concentrating on research, innovation and competitiveness.