

FIEC is the European Construction Industry Federation, representing via its 29 National Member Federations in 26 countries (23 EU & EFTA and Turkey) construction enterprises of all sizes, i.e. small and medium-sized enterprises as well as "global players", carrying out all forms of building and civil engineering activities.  
Recognised "Sectoral Social Partner" (employers)



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## Clean Energy Package needs joint effort to succeed

### ■ Binding target needs investment and adoption of existing energy solutions

"FIEC has an important role in the EU-wide effort to achieve the binding target for energy efficiency and we can encourage the renovation of existing buildings, assuming that adequate investment materialises, following the wide-sweeping package of measures, which we broadly support" says FIEC President Jean-Louis Marchand. "In particular, we are delighted that the European Commission has finally recognised that innovation in the construction sector, albeit currently undergoing a transformational period, is more generally incremental and energy efficiency solutions have long been available, with new technologies emerging all the time."

### ■ Synergy with existing initiatives and FIEC's recent contributions to policy

FIEC is particularly pleased with the collaborative approach taken by the EU policy makers, to produce a package that is a result of joined up thinking, with key initiatives from different Commission directorates referenced in many documents. President of FIEC's Technical Commission Kjetil Tonning notes that "In TEC, we have been involved in the development of the voluntary assessment framework on the environmental performance of buildings as well as the Construction and Demolition Waste Protocol and recent discussions to improve the effectiveness of the Construction Products Regulation. All of these are mentioned in the package and we believe that building on what has already been created is exactly what is needed, to avoid unnecessary duplication." The Social Commission will also have work to do, as stated by its President Maxime Verhagen, who adds "the Social Partners will have a crucial role in mapping and anticipating the skills needed to deliver the substantial renovation programmes required, ensuring that these skills are adequately integrated into the various national training schemes."

### ■ Construction industry ready to provide solutions

FIEC sees its considerable role as part of a huge collaborative effort, which needs everyone involved. Mr Marchand continues "The construction industry, energy companies, national governments, financial institutions as well as energy consumers, both industrial/commercial and householders need to get behind this package. Together, we can ensure that we tackle the problem of energy waste, to give the EU the best possible chance of eliminating once and for all the over-reliance on energy imports and the risk of energy shortages in future, which threaten the European economy and the well-being of our citizens. That said, it is clear that contractors are major players in the delivery of this package and we call on the EU policy makers to ensure that we are adequately represented at all fora established to ensure the successful implementation of the various measures proposed in the Clean Energy Package. Contractors and the rest of the construction sector make up *the* solution industry in this enormous Europe-wide task force".