

EPP PROMOTES DEBATE ON SAVING ENERGY IN THE BUILDING SECTOR

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EPP representatives, along with European Union officials and company delegates, yesterday debated how to save energy efficiently in the housing and building sectors.

The participants insisted on the necessity of improving insulation and renovating houses as some of the best ways to save energy since only a very low percentage of buildings are regularly renovated in order to achieve this goal.

They also underlined that in addition to the use of innovative technologies and new methods for saving energy, one of the keys is the attitude of the people living and working in the buildings.

The debate took place at the "Living Tomorrow International" exhibition house (<http://www.livtom.com>), which aims to show the latest technologies in using clean and efficient energy in houses and offices. Prior to the debate, the participants visited "Living tomorrow" and were informed about the latest ideas in the sector.

Participants in the meeting included **Ir. Jos Cox**, Director of Xella, a company specialized in energy saving building materials; **Philip Meyfroot**, Technology & Innovation Manager at Living Tomorrow International; **Eija-Riitta Korhola**, MEP and EPP Rapporteur on Climate Change; and **Wilfried Martens**, EPP President.

Yesterday's debate was the second in a series of meetings organized by the EPP to discuss climate change and its effects in detail. The EPP position on climate change was agreed in its document "**Combating Climate Change – our Responsibility for Future Generations**", which was adopted in February 2008 in Madrid by all EPP member parties.

The first debate organized by the EPP was held in March on the use of cleaner and more efficient energy technologies in the transport sector.

EPP President, **Wilfried Martens**, said "*these kind of debates are crucial for proposing concrete political measures to tackle climate change, a challenge which affects the daily lives of everybody. The EPP will continue its discussions in the coming months.*"

For more information:

Javier Jiménez

EPP Press Officer

Rue du Commerce, 10

B-1000 Brussels

Tel: +32 2 285 41 56 / +32 475 480 446

Fax: + 32 2 285 41 41

E-mail: press@epp.eu / jjimenez@epp.eu

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