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FIEC welcomes the European Affordable Housing Plan presented by the European Commission

On 16th December, the European Commission presented its first-ever European Affordable Housing Plan, accompanied by several specific initiatives: a European Strategy for Housing Construction, a revision of State aid rules, a new CPR working plan and a Communication on the implementation of the New European Bauhaus.

FIEC welcomes this first-ever *European Affordable Housing Plan*, especially its accompanying *European Strategy for Housing Construction*. With this strategy, the European Commission gets it right: the current housing shortage is massive, the construction industry has a prominent role to play and is indeed keen on playing its part. Together, this Strategy and the Plan can truly make the difference and help building and renovating more affordable and sustainable homes for EU citizens by:

- Simplifying, digitalising and accelerating permitting procedures,
- Boosting the uptake of innovative construction products and methods,
- Creating a real market for circular economy in construction,
- Enhancing skills for the twin transition and ensuring fair mobility for construction workers,
- And of course, unlocking the necessary public and private investment.

FIEC has actively advocated in favour of these priorities and therefore stands ready to further work with the European Commission, Member States, cities, financial institutions, and all relevant stakeholders to ensure that we restore real housing affordability for EU citizens.

Through its 32 national member associations in 27 countries (24 EU countries, Norway, Switzerland and Ukraine), the European Construction Industry Federation represents construction companies of all sizes, i.e., small, and medium-sized enterprises and "global players", carrying out all forms of building and civil engineering activities. FIEC is the officially recognised sectoral social partner in the European *Social Dialogue for Construction*.