Communication dated 19 November 2007 received from the Chair of the Vienna Chapter of the Non-aligned Movement and the Chair of the Group of 77 and China

1. The Chairman of the Board of Governors has received a letter dated 19 November 2007 from the Chair of the Vienna Chapter of the Non-aligned Movement and the Chair of the Group of 77 and China.

2. As requested therein, this letter is herewith circulated for information.
Vienna, November 19, 2007

Excellency:

It is our honor to send this letter on behalf of the Chapter of the Non-Aligned Movement and the G-77 in Vienna. Our respective memberships reject the recent declarations made by senior officials of one Government aimed at misleading the international public opinion by projecting a negative, partial and wrong perspective of the work of the IAEA and of its Director General, Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei, both recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize. Such declarations represent a violation of the IAEA Statute according to Article VII.F that, inter alia, stipulates: “Each member undertakes to respect the international character of the responsibilities of the Director General and the staff and shall not seek to influence them in the discharge of their duties.”

In this context, the members of both groups would like to reiterate their strong support and deep appreciation of the Secretariat’s work under the able leadership of the Director General, in discharging the mandate of the IAEA. They also reaffirm their full confidence in the Secretariat’s impartiality and professionalism, while implementing the statutory functions of the Agency in the areas of technical cooperation, safety and verification.

Based on this confidence, the two groups once again strongly reject any undue pressure or interference in the Agency’s activities by any member state, especially in its verification process, which will jeopardize its efficiency and credibility.
While kindly requesting that the present letter be circulated as an INFCIRC document for public information, we would like to take this opportunity to reiterate to you, Excellency, the assurance of our highest consideration.

Norma Goicochea Estenoz
Ambassador
Permanent Mission of Cuba to UN and other International Organizations in Vienna
Chair of the NAM Vienna Chapter

Sayed Gala Eldin Elamin
Ambassador
Permanent Mission of Sudan to UN and other International Organizations in Vienna
Chair of the Group of G77 and China

H.E. Ambassador Milenko Skoknic
Permanent Representative of Chile to IAEA
Chairman of the IAEA Board of Governors.

cc. H.E. Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei
Director General
International Atomic Energy Agency