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**Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review  
Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the  
Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

8 May 2007

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**First session**

Vienna, 30 April-11 May 2007

**International Atomic Energy Agency: Fiftieth anniversary  
and ongoing contribution to the NPT****Working paper by Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Hungary,  
Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway  
and Sweden (“the Group”)**

1. The Group notes that the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will occur on 29 July 2007. It congratulates the IAEA on reaching this milestone and expresses its gratitude to all who have made the IAEA possible, supported its work and served its ideals. The Group recalls in particular the award of the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize to the IAEA and its Director General, Mohamed ElBaradei, for their efforts to prevent nuclear weapons proliferation, and to ensure that nuclear energy for peaceful purposes is used in the safest possible way.

2. The Group stresses the vital contribution of the IAEA to the objectives of the Treaty. It recalls that the IAEA has been entrusted with specific responsibilities by the Treaty and by States parties, relating in particular to articles III and IV of the Treaty. In accordance with article III, the IAEA administers international safeguards to verify that non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty fulfil the non-proliferation commitment they have made, “with a view to preventing diversion of nuclear energy from peaceful uses to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices”. In giving effect to article IV, the IAEA facilitates and provides a channel for endeavours aimed at “the further development of the applications of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, especially in the territories of non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty, with due consideration for the needs of the developing areas of the world”. The Group notes that these efforts are supported by the IAEA programmes on technical cooperation and on nuclear safety and security.

3. The Group affirms that the IAEA can also support the Treaty by contributing to the verification of nuclear-weapon-free zones and of the conversion of nuclear weapons material and facilities to peaceful uses.



4. The Group recognizes the value of the IAEA as an independent, technical authority, which — in support of other articles of the NPT — could be called upon to oversee or affirm voluntary nuclear disarmament efforts.

5. The Group expresses its strong support for the IAEA as an independent, impartial and professional body which can play a central role in meeting current challenges to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty regime. It emphasizes the need to ensure that the IAEA has sufficient authority to meet the responsibilities entrusted to it by the Treaty and by States parties.

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