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International Atomic Energy Agency

BOARD OF GOVERNORS GENERAL CONFERENCE

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Item 23 of the Conference's provisional agenda
(GC(45)/1)

APPLICATION OF IAEA SAFEGUARDS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Report by the Director General to the Board of Governors and to the General Conference

Corrigendum

Annex 1 should be replaced by the Attachment hereto.

**TEXT OF LETTER OF 03 OCTOBER 2000 FROM THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SUDAN
ADDRESSED TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY**

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS
Republic of Sudan
Office of the Minister

Ref. No.: 27/4/1

Dear Mr. ElBaradei,

With reference to your letter No. 121-MI.13.4 of 19 June 2000 and its attachment, including your request for comments on the application of the IAEA's safeguards system to all nuclear activities in the Middle East as a step towards preparing a treaty establishing the Middle East as a nuclear-weapon-free zone, I should like to make the following points:

1. Sudan very much welcomes consultations with you on the subject of safeguards pursuant to several resolutions adopted by the Agency's General Conference in this connection;
2. Sudan fully supports the Agency's efforts to implement the safeguards system as an important step towards the preparation of a treaty to establish the Middle East as a nuclear-weapon-free zone on the understanding that the safeguards system that is to be applied shall be the system adopted by the Agency and signed by Sudan, which gives the State concerned the right to know the names, nationalities, and qualifications of the inspectors and the right to veto any of them;
3. It should be noted that we are currently participating in the efforts being made by the League of Arab States to prepare a treaty establishing the Middle East as a nuclear-weapon-free zone. It goes without saying that the application of the safeguards system will be an important step towards the preparation of such a treaty and compliance with it. We hope that the efforts of the League of Arab States will have your support through the Arab Group in the Agency;
4. It is well known that all States in the Middle East have signed and ratified the NPT with the exception of Israel, which continues to refuse to allow the Agency to inspect its nuclear installations and is the only nuclear Power in the Middle East. Sudan strongly supports the efforts of the Arab Group in the Agency to monitor Israel's nuclear activities. We hope that the Agency will continue to urge Israel to comply with the Agency's safeguard system and accede to the NPT;

Mr. M. ElBaradei
Director General
IAEA

5. I would like to reiterate our willingness to consult with you on this vital and important issue and to provide you with whatever assistance is required for the application of the safeguards system in all the countries of the Middle East without exception as a step towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.

Yours, etc.,

(signed) Mustafa Osman Ismail
Minister for Foreign Affairs