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**Javier Solana,  
EU High Representative for the CFSP,  
today met Yang Jiechi,  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of China**

Javier Solana, European Union High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), today held a meeting and working lunch with Yang Jiechi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of China. They discussed the bilateral relations between EU and China and exchanged views on international and regional issues.

The following is an edited summary of Mr Solana's remarks to the press after the meeting:

*"For me it is a great pleasure to receive Minister Yang, a good friend, here in Brussels in his first visit to this institution. I started our conversation by showing our solidarity with the tragic event in China. The Chinese people can be sure that we care about them and that we try to help them as much as we can.*

*Let me also say that the bilateral relations between China and the EU are very good, but we can still do better. In the time ahead of us we are committed to construct a solid and profound relationship. Today we had a good opportunity to talk about that, but also about how to look at the world as much as possible with the same eyes.*

*In the coming period of time, we have three very important events, for China and for the EU. First, the Olympic Games that we hope very much will be a success. That is in the interest of everybody, in the interest of the Olympic family. The second thing we have is the ASEM Summit that will take place in Beijing in October, and I hope very much that will be a success also. For us Europeans that is very important, for China also, and for the other countries of the region. And then we have the EU-China Summit set for the end of 2008 in Lyon, that will be to my mind a very good wrap-up of all this period of time in which China and the EU are working so much together.*

*We have in front of us important challenges that can only be solved with a good cooperation between important players. And without any doubt China is a very important player and the EU is also a very important player."*

Asked by journalists about his future visit to Iran, Mr Solana expressed his hope that his trip, in which he will represent China, Russia, the United States and countries of the EU, would help in bringing a diplomatic and political solution to the nuclear issue. The High Representative underlined the importance of *"finding a solution to the nuclear issue in a*

**FOR FURTHER DETAILS:**

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*manner that the international community has objective guarantees of the peaceful nature of the nuclear programme of Iran".*

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