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## **PRESS RELEASE**

3106th Council meeting

### **Foreign Affairs**

Brussels, 18 July 2011

President

**Catherine Ashton**

High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and  
Security Policy

# **P R E S S**

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## **Main results of the Council**

*The Council held an exchange of views on the **Middle East Peace Process**. It adopted conclusions pointing to the need for urgent progress towards a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, reiterating its concern at the continuing stalemate in the Peace Process and calling on the parties to show the highest sense of responsibility and to resume direct and substantive talks.*

*The Council held an exchange of views on the Southern Neighbourhood, in the light of the latest developments in the region and focusing on **Syria, Libya and Lebanon**. It adopted conclusions on each of these three countries.*

*The Council adopted a decision creating the position of **EU Special Representative for the Southern Mediterranean** and appointing Bernardino León to this position.*

*The Council discussed the need for **EU climate change diplomacy**, in view of the threat posed to global growth and prosperity by climate change. It adopted conclusions.*

*Over lunch, ministers discussed **Pakistan and Afghanistan**. They were joined by the Secretary-General of NATO, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, for the discussion on Afghanistan.*

*The Council appointed Peter Sørensen **EU Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina**.*

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- Where declarations, conclusions or resolutions have been formally adopted by the Council, this is indicated in the heading for the item concerned and the text is placed between quotation marks.
- Documents for which references are given in the text are available on the Council's Internet site (<http://www.consilium.europa.eu>).
- Acts adopted with statements for the Council minutes which may be released to the public are indicated by an asterisk; these statements are available on the Council's Internet site or may be obtained from the Press Office.

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## PARTICIPANTS

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**Commission:**

Mr Andris PIEBALGS

Member

## **ITEMS DEBATED**

### **Middle East Peace Process**

The High Representative briefed the Council on the Quartet meeting in Washington on 11 July and on the state of play regarding efforts to relaunch negotiations.

The Council adopted the following conclusions:

"The EU continues to believe that urgent progress is needed towards a two state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The EU reiterates its concern at the continuing stalemate in the Peace Process and calls on the parties to show the highest sense of responsibility and to resume direct and substantive talks.

The EU stresses the central role of the Quartet and fully supports the High Representative in her continued efforts for the Quartet to create a credible perspective for the re-launching of the peace process.

The EU has set out and will continue to promote actively its position with regard to parameters as contained in Council Conclusions of December 2009, December 2010 and May 2011."

### **Initiatives in the area of the Common Security and Defence Policy**

The High Representative presented her comprehensive civilian-military report on Common Security and Defence Policy to ministers and led a discussion on initiatives in the area of CSDP.

The report addresses military capabilities (pooling & sharing); permanent structured cooperation; civilian capabilities; civil-military synergies in capability development; improving EU crisis management performance (civil and military planning and conduct capacity, EU Battlegroups); and cooperation with partners (NATO, UN, third countries).

## **Southern Neighbourhood, Syria, Libya and Lebanon**

The Council exchanged views on the situation in the EU's Southern Neighbourhood, in the light of the latest developments in the region. It adopted the following conclusions:

### **Syria**

1. "The EU deplors the fact that the Syrian leadership has chosen to ignore repeated calls made by the international community and continues its policy of deliberate violent repression of peaceful protestors. The EU reiterates its condemnation of this policy in the strongest terms. The violence must be stopped immediately in order to prevent further bloodshed.
2. In this context, the EU calls for a political process leading to rapid and concrete implementation of substantial reforms, addressing the legitimate demands of Syrian people on their way to a peaceful, genuine and irreversible transition to democracy.
3. The EU salutes the determination and courage of the growing number of Syrian people who continue to voice their legitimate aspirations by peaceful protests. They do so despite the increasing number of casualties and reported cases of torture and other flagrant human rights abuses, some of which have been alleged by independent sources to be crimes against humanity. This must be subject to an independent, transparent and effective investigation, as requested by the UNSG, and the perpetrators of such acts must be held to account. The EU extends its sincere condolences to all victims and their families.
4. The EU condemns the crackdown by the Syrian security forces in a number of cities, most recently in Hama. The EU urges Syria's leadership to call off such security operations immediately and refrain from the continued use of force against civilians.
5. The EU recalls that President Al-Assad promised to launch a National Dialogue and notes that the first meetings took place. However, the Syrian regime still has to fulfil all legitimate demands to immediately stop violence and release prisoners as a prerequisite for a credible national dialogue leading to genuine transition to democracy. The EU emphasises that, if a dialogue is to be credible and genuine, it must be truly inclusive and conducted in an environment without fear and intimidation. For a dialogue to be inclusive and meaningful, the participation of the opposition with the full freedom of assembly is essential.
6. The EU further recalls that the Syrian government adopted reforms, notably the lifting of the state of emergency and guaranteeing the right to peaceful protest, which have never been put into practice. The EU reiterates that by choosing a path of repression instead of fulfilling its own promises on broad reforms, the Syrian regime is calling its legitimacy into question. The reforms should be fully implemented without delay.

7. The EU strongly deplores the fact that despite the amnesties announced by the President thousands are still held in detention. All prisoners of conscience and those arrested in connection with peaceful protests should be released urgently. The EU calls on the Syrian leadership to halt its far-reaching persecution, including arbitrary arrests, abuse of detainees in custody and intimidations, to respect human rights, allow unhindered access by human rights monitors, and cooperate with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights including by granting its mission access to Syria.
8. The EU notes with extreme concern the deteriorating humanitarian situation of many Syrians. Thousands of people continue to be displaced, including in the neighbouring countries, as a result of the violence. Provision of basic goods and services has been interrupted repeatedly. The Syrian authorities must ensure that no further interruptions occur. The EU stresses that the Syrian authorities bear responsibility for the humanitarian situation of the Syrian people and strongly urges them to allow safe and unhindered access by humanitarian agencies to all affected areas.
9. Noting that some limited access was given to international media, the EU urges the Syrian authorities to allow independent and international media to operate in Syria without restrictions. The Syrian people should not be deprived of access to free media, including the Internet.
10. The EU strongly condemns the attacks directed against diplomatic representations, including of one of its Member States, and the totally inadequate response of the Syrian authorities. It further reminds the authorities of their obligation to protect diplomatic representations in Syria.
11. The situation continues to affect neighbouring countries and constitutes a threat to regional peace, security and stability. Therefore, the EU persists in its efforts to ensure that the UN Security Council assumes its responsibility in this respect, including by condemning the ongoing violent repression. The EU acknowledges the efforts by Turkey and other regional partners on the different aspects of the crisis, in particular the humanitarian aspects, and will work with them to address the situation in Syria. The EU continues to stand ready to assist in addressing the humanitarian implications of the crisis in the region.
12. Until the unacceptable violence against the civilian population is halted and decisive progress achieved towards fulfilling the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people for a democratic transition, the EU will pursue and carry forward its current policy, including through sanctions targeted against those responsible for or associated with the violent repression."

## Libya

1. "Firmly committed to the full implementation of UNSCRs 1970 and 1973, the EU remains unwavering in its commitment to protecting Libyan civilians, including through the intensification of pressure on the Kadhafi regime.
2. The EU condemns the grave violations of human rights and the breaches of international humanitarian law perpetrated by the regime. It reiterates the importance of accountability, justice and the need to fight against impunity. It takes note of the decision of the International Criminal Court's Pre-Trial Chamber I on 27 June to issue arrest warrants against Muammar Kadhafi, Saif al Islam Kadhafi and Abdullah al-Sanussi in connection with alleged crimes against humanity in Libya and calls for full co-operation with the International Criminal Court. It also welcomes the extension of the mandate of the International Commission of Inquiry by the UN Human Rights Council.
3. Kadhafi has lost all legitimacy and must relinquish power immediately. Noting continuing defections from the Kadhafi regime, the EU calls on its remaining followers to disassociate themselves from its crimes.
4. The EU remains concerned about the humanitarian situation. It is pursuing its efforts to deliver humanitarian assistance to all Libyans and people in need in an impartial and non-discriminatory manner and calls for unlimited humanitarian access in western Libya and full respect of international humanitarian law. If requested by UN OCHA, the EU will conduct a CSDP operation "EUFOR Libya" to support humanitarian assistance in the region.
5. The EU welcomes the commitment expressed once more by the international community at the Contact Group meeting held in Istanbul on 15 July to support the Libyan people in their ongoing transition process, from the Kadhafi era and towards the creation of a united, sovereign and democratic Libyan state. In particular the EU endorses the shared and overarching principles identified to guide efforts towards a political transition, as well as the common approach to supporting the Libyan people in rebuilding their country. To that end, the EU welcomes the presentation by the NTC of their plans for the post-conflict stage.
6. The EU is dedicated to helping shape the conditions for a monitored cease-fire linked to a genuine and inclusive political process clearly committed to national reconciliation and to the unity of post-Kadhafi Libya. Under the leadership of the UN and with UNSG Special Envoy for Libya as focal point, the EU will pursue its work with other international and regional partners, notably the Cairo Group, which brings the EU together with the UN, the Arab League, the African Union, the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation. In this regard, the EU acknowledges the useful contribution made by the African Union at the July 2011 Malabo Summit.

7. The EU considers the NTC as a legitimate political interlocutor. It acknowledges the essential role and responsibilities of the NTC as a representative of the aspirations of the Libyan people, including for the transition process. As such, the EU welcomes the visit to the EU institutions, on 13-14 July, of the Chairperson of the Executive Committee of the National Transitional Council (NTC), Mr. Mahmoud Jibril. The EU acknowledges the urgent financial needs of the NTC to allow it to serve the Libyan people. The EU and Member States will continue to explore all options in that respect, including, where possible, through the use of Libyan frozen funds, inter alia as a guarantee for providing financial assistance, and the resumption of exports, in compliance with the provisions of the relevant UNSCRs. Recalling the commitments made by the NTC in its "Road to Democratic Libya", the EU also stands ready to provide further assistance to the NTC in order to enable it to assume its responsibilities, including upholding the rule of law throughout the areas under its control. In this context, the NTC must also continue its commitment to address alleged violations of international law, including of human rights.
8. The EU is committed to support the emergence of a new, stable, prosperous, sovereign and democratic Libya through a peaceful, transparent and inclusive transition process. The EU is already implementing activities in support of the Libyan civil society, and is preparing further assistance including for human rights defenders, youth, women, local authorities and media. The EU underlines the importance of the UN-led support of the international community for Libya in the weeks and months following a cease-fire. The transition should be a Libyan-driven process to which the EU will contribute together with key partners as soon as conditions allow."

## **Lebanon**

1. "The EU welcomes the formation of a new government in Lebanon. It expects that the new government will ensure promotion of stability, unity, sovereignty and independence of Lebanon in full respect of the constitution and the rule of law. The EU trusts that the Lebanese government will give priority to strengthening the state's authority. It encourages the new government to implement an ambitious agenda of much needed economic, social and political reforms.
2. The Council expects that the new Lebanese government will be committed to the full implementation of all relevant UNSC Resolutions, including 1559, 1680, 1701 and 1757.
3. Concerned by the absence of an explicit commitment to cooperate with the Special Tribunal for Lebanon in the Ministerial Declaration, the Council calls upon the new government to respect and fulfil all its international obligations and commitments stemming from UNSCR 1757. It reiterates EU's full support to the Special Tribunal, an independent court, established by the UNSC Resolution 1757 and following the highest judicial standards. The Council expects all parties to fully cooperate with the Tribunal. It further calls on all Lebanese actors to act constructively and continue to show restraint.

4. Bearing this in mind, the EU attaches great importance to the partnership between the European Union and Lebanon. As Lebanon achieves sustainable progress towards reforms, in particular in strengthening democracy, rule of law, inclusive economic development and reducing social inequalities, the EU is prepared to match this with increased support, as foreseen in the framework of the new European Neighbourhood Policy."

## **Pakistan and Afghanistan**

Ministers discussed Pakistan and Afghanistan over lunch. They were joined by NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen for the discussion on Afghanistan. The Council adopted the following conclusions:

### **Pakistan**

1. "The EU reaffirms its commitment to building a strong long-term partnership with Pakistan, and to supporting Pakistan's democratic institutions and civilian government, as well as civil society. The EU is determined that this partnership should be based on mutual interests and shared values. It should be wide-ranging, covering economic and trade cooperation and provision of humanitarian and development assistance, regional and global security issues, respect for human rights and the rule of law, and migration issues, including illegal immigration. As regards Pakistan's ratification of the ICCPR and the CAT, the EU notes the intention of Pakistan to formally withdraw many of its reservations.
2. As the EU's partnership with Pakistan matures, it should increasingly balance the interests and concerns of both partners. Thus, while the EU is ready to pursue cooperation in a number of areas, we also count on Pakistan to react to EU concerns, in particular in the fields of security and of human rights, including the protection of minorities and freedom of religion and speech. Moreover, without far-reaching structural, economic and fiscal reforms, EU assistance cannot be fully effective.
3. The EU fully recognises that Pakistan has suffered huge sacrifices in seeking security and stability in the region. It strongly encourages Pakistan to step up efforts to combat terrorism and extremism. The EU is cooperating with Pakistan on strengthening the law enforcement capabilities of the police and judiciary. Pakistan's contribution to the Afghan led political process aimed at resolving the conflict in Afghanistan will be essential and the EU welcomes recent discussions between the two governments.
4. The EU remains committed to the European Council's Declaration of 16 September 2010 regarding i.a. better market access for Pakistan. It has made strong efforts to achieve a consensus in the WTO on the EU's request for a waiver to grant Pakistan the time-limited reduction of duties on key imports to the EU market. The Council reiterates its commitment to Pakistan's eligibility to GSP+, as from 2014, provided that it meets the necessary criteria. In this context, the effective implementation of the International Conventions listed in the EU's GSP regulation should be pursued by Pakistan.

5. The Council invites the EEAS, in consultation with the Commission, to resume work with the Government of Pakistan on an ambitious five year Engagement Plan, and to review progress at the forthcoming meeting of the EU-Pakistan Joint Commission, with a view to the initiation of the Strategic Dialogue at ministerial level foreseen at the June 2010 EU-Pakistan Summit. The Council looks forward to the launch of the Strategic Dialogue during a visit by the HR to Pakistan at the earliest possible time and, in the light of progress achieved, to a third EU-Pakistan Summit."

## **Afghanistan**

1. "The Council welcomes the start of the transition process in Afghanistan this month.
2. It believes that there is no alternative to an Afghan-led process leading to a political solution to the conflict. It stands ready to support these efforts, while stressing the importance of close coordination between all parties involved. In this context, it recognizes the High Peace Council's efforts to forge a broad national consensus in support of peace and reconciliation.
3. Following the death of Usama bin Laden and the creation of a new sanctions regime for the Afghan insurgency, those who have participated in the insurgency now have an opportunity to participate in the political process. While there should be no conditions for the beginning of political talks, the outcome must be in line with the red lines laid down by the Afghan Government and supported by the international community: renouncing violence, cutting ties with Al Qaeda and respect for the Afghan constitution including its provisions on human rights. Particular attention must be paid to the rights of women.
4. The EU reiterates its strong commitment to Afghanistan's development and to the transition process during the period until the end of 2014, when responsibility for security will be fully in the hands of the Afghan authorities, and beyond. This is a priority for the EU. The EU notes that transition in the security field must go hand in hand with sustainable progress in governance, rule of law and development.
5. For the EU's long-term engagement to succeed, the conditions on the ground, especially as regards security, must allow its support to Afghanistan's development to be delivered safely throughout the country. Moreover, Afghanistan should take the necessary measures to reinforce the democratic institutions of governance, including oversight by elected bodies at both national and sub-national levels, in particular as regards the flows and use of public finances. The independent role of the parliament, of the judiciary and of the authorities charged with audit must be respected and progressively strengthened. The Council expresses its concern about the lack of progress in the areas of governance, rule of law and anticorruption and calls upon the Government of Afghanistan to show determined leadership in delivering on the commitments made at the July 2010 Kabul Conference.

6. In this respect the EU urges Afghanistan and the IMF to reach an agreement rapidly, so that the crisis following the collapse of the Kabul Bank can be resolved in a pragmatic and transparent way, for the benefit of Afghanistan's financial sector as well as to allow development flows to resume as soon as possible. The EU appeals to the Afghan institutions to find a constitutional solution to the problems which have arisen following the 2010 parliamentary elections. This solution should preserve the separation of powers and the integrity of the institutions of state.
7. The Council noted that these issues will play a major role in ensuring a successful and irreversible transition and in shaping the international community's long term commitment in Afghanistan. In the International Afghanistan Conference in Bonn on 5 December 2011, the international community will take stock of the transition process, lay the foundation for international long-term engagement, and discuss the political process in Afghanistan as well as its regional aspects. Progress on previous commitments taken on by Afghanistan is relevant to this debate.
8. The Council expresses its willingness to negotiate an ambitious and balanced EU-Afghanistan agreement reflecting its long-term commitment to the country's development as well as the principles and conditions on which the future partnership will be based. It invites the EEAS and the Commission to draft a negotiation mandate for a cooperation agreement ahead of the Bonn Conference.
9. Appropriate resources need to be made available to fund the EU's future action in Afghanistan, including for the coordinated implementation of the EU Action Plan, both by Member States and by the EU. As the Plan specifies, it will also be important for the EU and Member States to further align their development activities to the priorities identified by the Afghan government. At the same time, however, the EU expects the international community as a whole as well as Afghanistan to address these challenges. It is therefore all the more important that coordination mechanisms such as the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board should increase their effectiveness and that the UNAMA continue to play a central role. The EU recognizes that coordination on the ground with all international actors, including NATO, under Afghan leadership, will be necessary to meet our common goals.
10. In this context the EU reiterates the importance of its work on sub-national governance, civil service and civilian police training and capacity building, and the rule of law, as foreseen in the EU Action Plan. The EU decided to reinforce its support, in close cooperation with the UN and the international community, for reform of the electoral system and the strengthening of the independent electoral institutions. The Council also favours enhanced cooperation between the EU institutions and the Afghan Parliament, as well as with Afghan civil society.

11. The EU remains committed to supporting the Afghan police and to helping improve the quality of the service it provides. The Council will consider how this can best be done by the EU and, as part of this, the Council decided to look into the development of a post-2013 strategy for EUPOL AFGHANISTAN.
12. It stresses, furthermore, that the counterpart of an effective Afghan police force is an effective and transparent justice system. Afghanistan should honour its commitments to the reform of the justice sector and to strengthen the rule of law. The EU will continue to play an important role in this effort.
13. Production and trafficking of drugs and precursors remain a major threat to the stability and governance of Afghanistan and continue to be a major source of revenue for the insurgency. This has a direct impact on areas such as agriculture, health and policing, and impedes the development of legitimate economic alternatives to the cultivation of opium which are more beneficial to the general population of Afghanistan. The EU accordingly calls on the Afghan authorities to continue to address these issues in a holistic way, and on the international community to step up cooperation, including at a regional level and through the UNODC Paris Pact. The EU is ready to support these efforts, as appropriate.
14. The EU and Member States intend to engage with the Government of Afghanistan on migration issues, especially on combating and preventing illegal migration and strengthening cooperation on return issues and readmission.
15. Regional cooperation is essential both in the field of security and of economic development. The EU expresses support for the steps taken towards an intensified dialogue between Afghanistan and Pakistan on these matters. It notes the potential for closer regional integration through regional trade and transit networks. The EU will support initiatives to realize this potential and to increase private sector involvement in the long-term development strategy for Afghanistan. The EU underlined the importance of both the Bonn Conference and the forthcoming Istanbul Conference in November in advancing the regional agenda."

**OTHER BUSINESS**

The Italian State Secretary reported on his recent visits to South Sudan and to Somalia.

**OTHER ITEMS APPROVED****FOREIGN AFFAIRS****High Representative's Report on Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)**

The Council adopted the annual report from the High Representative to the European Parliament on the main aspects and basic choices of the CFSP.

[12562/11](#)

**EU Special Representative for the Southern Mediterranean**

The Council adopted a decision appointing Bernardino León Special Representative for the Southern Mediterranean, a new post created in the wake of the recent developments in the Arab world as part of the EU's efforts to support the democratic transformation of its Southern Neighbourhood and develop a new partnership with the region.

The decision sets out the EUSR's mandate, based on the EU's policy objectives for the Southern Neighbourhood. The Special Representative will strengthen the EU's overall political role vis-à-vis the countries of the Southern Mediterranean, through enhanced dialogue with governments, international organisations and civil society and by maintaining close contacts with all parties involved in the process of democratic transformation.

[11949/11](#)

**EU Special Representative for Central Asia**

The Council adopted a decision extending the mandate of Pierre Morel, EU Special Representative for Central Asia, from 31 August 2011, when the current mandate expires, to 30 June 2012.

[11995/11](#)

**EU Special Representative in Afghanistan**

The Council adopted a decision extending the mandate of the EU Special Representative in Afghanistan, Vygaudas Ušackas, until 30 June 2012.

## **EU Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

The Council adopted a decision appointing Peter Sørensen EU Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1 September 2011. Peter Sørensen replaces Valentin Inzko, and his mandate will run until 30 June 2015.

The EU is further strengthening its policy and presence on the ground through a single, reinforced Union representative who will take a lead in supporting Bosnia and Herzegovina on Union-related matters, to support the country's progress towards integration with the Union.

The Council envisages that the position of the EUSR and of the Head of the EU Delegation Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina will be merged into one.

Valentin Inzko remains the internationally appointed High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

[12233/11](#)

## **EU seeks to strengthen the Convention prohibiting Biological weapons (BTWC)**

The Council adopted a decision on the European Union Position relating to the Seventh Review Conference of the BTWC.

For details, see press release [12348/11](#).

## **Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) - Council Decision on UN Programme of Actions**

The Council adopted a decision in support of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs activities to implement the United Nations Programme of Actions to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in All Its Aspects.

The UN Programme of Action on SALW was adopted by UN Member States in 2001. It represents the main international instrument to address the risk posed by the illicit trade and excessive accumulation of SALW. It provides for guidelines and measures to be adopted at international, regional, sub-regional, and national level to minimise the risk of diversion of SALW to the illegal market and the negative impact that trafficking in SALW can have on international and regional security, peace and development.

In line with the 2003 EU Security Strategy and 2005 EU SALW Strategy, the Council decision will support multilateralism in addressing the risks posed by the illegal trade in SALW. It will do so by promoting the implementation of the UN Programme of Action at regional and national level through several outreach events, the improvement of national capacities of countries in Africa to mark and track SALW, and through supporting the implementation by several third states of UN guidelines on ammunition stockpile management. All these activities should also contribute to the preparation of the Review Conference of the UN Programme of Action that will take place in New York in August 2012.

[12310/11](#)

## **ICTY**

The Council adopted an Implementing Decision implementing Decision 2010/603/CFSP on further measures in support of the effective implementation of the mandate of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY).

[11279/11](#)

It also adopted an Implementing Decision implementing Decision 2010/145/CFSP renewing measures in support of the effective implementation of the mandate of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY).

[11276/11](#)

## **Sudan and South Sudan: restrictive measures**

The Council adopted a decision in order to adapt the scope of the restrictive measures, including the arms embargo, imposed by Common Position 2005/411/CFSP following the independence of South Sudan.

The decision enters into force upon publication in the Official Journal of the European Union on 19 July 2011.

[11942/11](#)

## **Review of the EU list of persons, groups and entities involved in terrorist acts**

The Council reviewed the EU lists of persons, groups and entities to which Articles 2, 3 and 4 of Common Position 2001/931/CFSP and Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 2580/2001 apply.

After reviewing all new relevant information, the Council decided:

- to remove three individuals and two groups from the list annexed to Decision 2011/70/PESC regarding the lists of persons, groups and entities to which Articles 2, 3 and 4 of Common Position 2001/931/CFSP apply;
- to remove the same three individuals and two groups from the Council Implementing Regulation implementing Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 2580/2001 on specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities with a view to combating terrorism, thus repealing Implementing Regulation (EU) No 83/2011 and Implementing Regulation (EU) No 610/2010.
- to repeal Decision 2010/386/CFSP as regards the one remaining group on that same list as the review of that group has been completed, and to maintain that group on the list.

As usual, statements of reasons were adopted. Letters of notification will be addressed to the persons, groups and entities concerned (where an address is available) and a notice will be published in the Official Journal ("C" Series).

With regard to the list of persons, groups and entities to which only Article 4 of Common Position 2001/931/CFSP applies, the Council confirmed the list as set out in the Annex to Common Position 2009/468/CFSP of 15 June 2009.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 151, 16.6.2009, p. 45.

**DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION****Guinea-Bissau**

The Council concluded consultations held under Article 96 of the Cotonou Agreement with the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and set out a roadmap to gradually resume development cooperation with the country ([12515/11](#)).

For more information, see press release [12910/11](#).

**Republic of Guinea**

The Council amended the appropriate measures in place for the Republic of Guinea, introduced under Article 96 of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement ([12453/1/11 REV 1](#)). In accordance with the revised measures, as soon as a detailed timetable for holding parliamentary elections by the end of 2011 has been drawn up and adopted, the EU will release funds in direct support to the population of Guinea. EU development cooperation with the country will be fully resumed once Guinea has held free and transparent parliamentary elections.

Following a military coup d'état at the end of 2008, the EU suspended its development cooperation with the Republic of Guinea. In July 2009 a roadmap for gradual resumption of cooperation with the country was set out. Since then Guinea has made significant progress in implementing this roadmap.

For more information, see press release [12961/11](#).

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