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- August, 27, 2007

#### **Committee on Foreign Affairs**

- September , 3, 2007 Strasbourg

#### **Subcommittee on Human Rights**

- August, 27, 2007

#### **Subcommittee on security and defence**

- September, 11, 2007

#### **Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and home affairs**

- August, 27, 2007

#### **Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality**

- September, 11, 2007

#### **Committee on budgetary control**

- September, 11,12, 2007

### **CONFERENCES / EVENTS**

**REGIONS:**

**AFRICA**

**Democratic Republic of Congo**

- ▶ **Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the EU on combating impunity in the Democratic republic of Congo** (03/08/2007)

On the second anniversary of the murder, in Bukavu on 31 July 2005, of Pascal Kabungulu, the Secretary-General of Héritiers de la Justice, the European Union wishes to reiterate the importance of the fight against impunity for the democratic process in progress in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The recent murder of Radio Okapi journalist Serge Maheshe in Bukavu on 13 June 2007 and the deteriorating human rights situation prevailing particularly in the east of the country illustrate the dangers to which defenders of human rights, including journalists, are always exposed.

**The EU calls on the Congolese authorities to bring fully to light the truth about both these murders**, in accordance with its international obligations, especially regarding human rights, thereby demonstrating to Congolese citizens that impunity is no longer tolerated.

At the same time, the EU has taken good note of the judgments handed down on Saturday 28 July 2007 by the military court of Kisangani, in session at Bunia, and welcomes the verdicts delivered in the trial against the perpetrators of the atrocities committed in Bavi (Ituri) in 2006. The EU considers that judgment a positive move in the fight against impunity in the DRC and believes that it could serve as an example for the Kabungulu case – which began more than a year ago and has been interrupted for many months – and for other judicial proceedings in progress concerning serious human rights violations. The EU stresses its commitment to the restoration of the justice system, in particular through the REJUSCO programme in the east of the country.

[http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias\\_Documentos/Declaracoes\\_PESC/20070803drc.htm](http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias_Documentos/Declaracoes_PESC/20070803drc.htm)

**Darfur**

- ▶ **Javier Solana, High Representative for the CFSP welcomes the result of the Arusha-meeting on peace in Darfur** (07/08/2007).

Javier SOLANA, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy ( FSP), welcomes the result of the Arusha meeting on peace in Darfur, that was held from 3 to 6 August:

"The prospect of peace in Darfur has moved significant step closer. The outcome of the AU/UN-brokered Arusha meeting on peace in Darfur is very encouraging. The common position among essential non-signatory movements is an achievement which holds the promise of peace negotiations in the coming months.

The decision to deploy the Hybrid Operation has contributed to the current political momentum.

The EU will continue its strong support for the peace process in Darfur and urges all parties the rebel movements and the Government of Sudan to live up to their commitments. Now is the time to engage and demonstrate genuine dedication to put an end to this crisis."

<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/showPage.ASP?lang=en>

## Darfur

### ► Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the outcome of the Arusha-meeting (09/08/2007)

The European Union welcomes the outcome of the Arusha-meeting, which gathered leading personalities from non-signatory movements of the Darfur conflict. Obtaining agreement on a common position among these movements is a crucial step forward and an essential building block for final talks to take place 2-3 months from now.

The European Union commends the AU/UN leadership for achieving an outcome that further boosts the prospects for peace in Darfur. The countries in the region equally played a pivotal role in advancing on this difficult question.

The EU further emphasises the importance of an inclusive political process that takes into account the concerns of the people of Darfur – internally displaced persons, refugees, traditional leaders, civil society organisations, including women's groups etc. Only by engaging those most directly affected by this crisis and by genuinely taking their priorities into account can a truly sustainable peace be achieved.

The EU strongly underlines and recalls the need for full and unconditional cessation of hostilities as well as the immediate implementation of the cease fire that must be respected by all parties. Furthermore, unhindered access for humanitarian organisations remains a basic demand of the international community as a whole.

The European Union calls on the government of Sudan and all the rebel movements to fully engage in the AU/UN-led political process.

The European Union will support consideration of measures against any party that obstructs the AU/UN-led political process, notably in the UN framework.

With the unanimous approval in the United Nations Security Council of resolution 1769(2007) the agreement on a UN/AU-hybrid operation in Darfur provides further political impetus to the current positive momentum. The EU stands ready to consider ways to support this operation and to advance the realisation of its promise of peace in Darfur, and appeals to all interested parties to clearly and unequivocally demonstrate their commitment to this effect.

Finally, the EU is ready to focus substantial attention to the recovery and development of Darfur and Sudan as a whole. The outcome from the Arusha-meeting brings the day closer, when the people of Darfur and the region can hopefully enjoy the benefits of economic and social development concentrated on the needs of the entire population.

[http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias\\_Documentos/Declaracoes\\_PESC/20070809.htm](http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias_Documentos/Declaracoes_PESC/20070809.htm)

<b>AMERICAS</b>
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## Guatemala

- ▶ **EU Presidency statement on the decision of the Guatemala Congress to establish the international Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala** (03/08/2007)

The EU Presidency welcomes the decision of the Guatemalan Congress, on August 1st, to establish the International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala, as a matter of urgency, and would like to congratulate the Parliament, Government and the people of Guatemala for this action.

The EU Presidency is fully convinced that this decision shows Guatemala's strong commitment to fight impunity and corruption and to work towards the eradication of the illegal armed groups as well as to prevent their re-emergence.

The EU Presidency is truly confident that with the present decision the Guatemalan authorities will strengthen the rule of law and provide instruments to offer citizens an environment of security **and respect for human rights**. In this regard the EU also acknowledges **the importance of human rights defenders** in combating cultures of impunity on violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The EU Presidency would also like to reiterate its commitment to co-operate and participate in the process of implementation of the International Commission Against Impunity.

[http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias\\_Documentos/Declaracoes\\_PESC/20070803guate.htm](http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias_Documentos/Declaracoes_PESC/20070803guate.htm)

## ASIA

### Bangladesh, India, Nepal

- ▶ **EU Presidency Statement on floodings in Bangladesh, India and Nepal** (08/08/2007).

The Presidency expresses the EU's sincere condolences to the people of Bangladesh, India and Nepal for the vast destruction caused by the recent floodings. Our deepest sympathy lies with the Indian, Bangladeshi and Nepalese people for the tragic human and material losses they have suffered and the profound consequences that will be felt in generations to come.

[http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias\\_Documentos/Declaracoes\\_PESC/20070808.htm](http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias_Documentos/Declaracoes_PESC/20070808.htm)

## EUROPE (OUTSIDE OF UE ) AND CIS

### Georgia

- ▶ **Declaration of the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the missile incident in Georgia** (10/08/2007)

The EU has followed closely the incident involving the crashing of a missile near the village of Tsitelubani in Georgia on August the 6th.

The EU expresses its deep concern and calls upon all parties involved to abstain from any action that could lead to an escalation of the situation. Recalling the principle of respect for the territorial integrity of Georgia, the EU underlines the need for a rapid, thorough and independent investigation in order to clarify and verify all the facts surrounding this incident.

The EU welcomes the statement of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office that the OSCE stands ready to cooperate with the investigation within the framework of its mandate.

<http://www.eu2007.pt/NR/exeres/258E620D-1833-4F93-B315-C1C26F8E0720.htm>

## MAGHREB AND MIDDLE EAST

### Iran

- ▶ **Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the EU on death sentences on Adnan Hassanpour and Abdolwahed Boutimar** (03/08/2007)

The EU is **deeply concerned** about **the series of collective public executions** that have been taking place in several regions of Iran during the last month, as well as with the growing **number of death sentences both at first level courts and at the Supreme Court**

In this regard, the EU is especially concerned about the death sentences on the two Kurdish journalists, Adnan Hassanpour and Abdolwahed Boutimar. The EU is also particularly troubled by the growing repression against all groups which exercise their right to freely express their opinions, in particular in Kurdish and Arab minority regions. The EU urges the Islamic Republic of Iran to fully respect its Criminal Procedure Code and to grant the right to a fair trial to all individuals, namely by allowing them to have access to a lawyer from the beginning of the judicial process.

The EU calls on the Islamic Republic of Iran to halt the executions of Adnan Hassanpour and of Abdolwahed Boutimar and to ensure that the two accused be given a fair trial, in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which Iran has ratified, as well as the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The EU, while condemning the increasing recourse to the death penalty in the Islamic Republic of Iran, reiterates its longstanding opposition to the death penalty in all circumstances.

[http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias\\_Documentos/Declaracoes\\_PESC/20070803death.htm](http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias_Documentos/Declaracoes_PESC/20070803death.htm)

### Lebanon

- ▶ **EU Presidency Statement on by-elections to the Lebanese National Assembly** (06/08/2007)

The Presidency of the European Union welcomes the 5 August by-elections to the Lebanese National Assembly. These elections hold in an open and fairly-contested electoral process are an important step in strengthening and respecting the democratic elected institutions of the country. The Presidency reiterates its strong commitment to the stability, sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon.

[http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias\\_Documentos/Declaracoes\\_PESC/20070806.htm](http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias_Documentos/Declaracoes_PESC/20070806.htm)

### Iraq

► **EU Presidency Statement on Iraq's Neighbouring Countries follow-up Security Working Group** (10/08/2007)

The Presidency of the European Union welcomes the meeting of the Iraq's Neighbouring Countries' Conference follow-up Security Working Group, held in Damascus on August 8-9.

The Presidency of the European Union emphasises the need for the Security Working Group to convene regular meetings at the appropriate level in order to explore effective ways and take concrete measures aimed at stabilisation and reducing the violence in Iraq, through dialogue and co-operation.

The international community, and in particular the States of the region, have the responsibility to support and promote the difficult process of national reconciliation and stabilisation in Iraq, and to prevent outside interference that could undermine this process.

The European Union condemns in the strongest terms all forms of violence against the Iraqi population and supports a secure, stable, democratic, prosperous and unified Iraq as well as the efforts to promote national reconciliation, the restoration of public order and the rule of law.

[http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias\\_Documentos/Declaracoes\\_PESC/20080810.htm](http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias_Documentos/Declaracoes_PESC/20080810.htm)

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