



**COUNCIL OF
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**Javier SOLANA,
EU High Representative for the CFSP,
discussed prospects for the Middle East Peace Process
with Ahmed ABUL GHEIT,
Foreign Minister of Egypt**

Javier SOLANA, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), had a meeting today with the Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed ABUL GHEIT.

At the meeting, Mr SOLANA and Mr ABUL GHEIT discussed the latest developments concerning the Middle East Peace Process, particularly since the last Quartet meeting, which included the Palestinian and Israeli parties, on 8 and 9 November in Sharm El Sheik.

Mr SOLANA thanked Mr ABUL GHEIT for the active role played by Egypt in trying to overcome the intra-Palestinian divisions. Egypt has been very engaged over the past year in seeking reconciliation between the different Palestinian factions.

The High Representative briefed the Egyptian foreign minister on the preparations for the EU naval operation EUNAVFOR Somalia. Mr ABUL GHEIT expressed interest in hearing about the EU's first-ever maritime operation and underlined the importance of the EU's involvement in trying to solve the problem of piracy off the Somali coast and in the Gulf.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

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