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**Javier SOLANA,
EU High Representative for the CFSP,
and EU Commissioner Louis MICHEL
welcome the Khartoum II declaration between the Transitional
Federal Institutions and the Union of Islamic Courts in Somalia**

Javier SOLANA, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), and Louis MICHEL, EU Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid, welcome the declaration signed on 4th September 2006 in Khartoum between the Transitional Federal Institutions and the Union of Islamic Courts (UIC) of Somalia. They commend Somali parties for their commitment to set aside their differences and to meet the aspirations towards peace, stability and reconciliation of the Somali people.

The High Representative and the Commissioner reaffirm their full appreciation to the ongoing efforts of the League of Arab States in facilitating inter-Somali talks and remain committed to continue to engage in support of the process.

They are confident that the momentum generated by the Khartoum talks can be pursued and that the agreed joint follow-up mechanism is effectively made operational in order to build confidence and prepare for the third round of the talks.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:
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