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## Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the national dialogue process in Yemen

Catherine Ashton, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the Commission, made the following statement today:

*“I welcome the recent Agreement reached in Yemen between the General People’s Congress (GPC) and the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) on national dialogue. I also welcome the announcement by President Saleh on the implementation of the confidence building measures first signalled in his speech of 22 May 2010. These are important steps forward in the national dialogue process, which offers an opportunity to unlocking progress on many issues, from economic and political reform, to national reconciliation.*

*I would like to encourage all the parties to implement the new Agreement, and reiterate that the European Union stands ready to support the dialogue process. I also take the opportunity to restate the full support of the European Union for a democratic, united and stable Yemen.”*

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**P R E S S**

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