

22 September 2010

**Statement delivered by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the E3+3**

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

“The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States and I met today. We reaffirmed our determination and commitment to seek an early negotiated solution to the Iranian nuclear issue and focused our discussion on further practical steps to achieve it at an early date.

We also discussed the implementation of UNSCR 1929, adopted by the Security Council on June 9th of this year, which reflected the international community's concerns about the Iranian nuclear programme: we confirmed the need for Iran to comply with the UN Security Council, and IAEA Board of Governors requirements, and reaffirmed our commitment to continued and active engagement between E3+3 and Iran.

Our objective continues to be a comprehensive long-term negotiated solution which restores international confidence in the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear programme, while respecting Iran's legitimate right to the peaceful use of nuclear energy. We remain determined and united in our efforts for this purpose.

We are ready to engage with Iran in the context of implementing the understandings reached during the Geneva meeting of 1 October 2009, and look forward to an early meeting of the E3+3 with Iran. In the context of this resumed dialogue, we would also welcome a meeting of the “Vienna Group” on the technical implementation of a revised arrangement for the supply of fuel to the TRR and would like to seize the expressed readiness of the IAEA Director General Y. Amano to convene such a meeting.

We look forward to Iran’s positive and constructive participation in this dialogue.”

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