



EUROPEAN UNION

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**Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative
Catherine Ashton on the announced agreement on land reform
concluded between the Colombian government and the FARC**

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

“The High Representative warmly welcomes the announcement by the Colombian government and the FARC that an agreement on land reform has been reached in the Havana peace negotiations. The issue of land and rural development lies at the heart of Colombia's armed conflict that has caused unspeakable suffering over the past decades.

The High Representative hopes that this crucial, albeit partial, agreement will add fresh impetus to the Havana negotiations, with a view to the rapid conclusion of a final peace agreement that would allow Colombia to enter into a full-fledged peace-building phase.

The High Representative commends both sides for their commitment to the peace process, and calls on them to continue to negotiate and cooperate in a spirit of goodwill and constructiveness, in order to give the Colombian people the peace that it deserves.”

P R E S S

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