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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on
the OAU's mediation efforts in the Comoros crisis**

The European Union remains concerned at the continuing crisis within the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros (IFRC).

The holding on the island of Anjouan on 26 October of consultations unattended by independent observers has merely complicated the search for a lasting and peaceful solution to the problems arising in the IFRC. The European Union fully supports the very clear stand taken by the OAU on this issue and does not recognize the outcome of such consultations.

The European Union calls upon all parties in the Comoros to begin negotiations at the earliest opportunity under the aegis of the OAU in order to define a common blueprint for the future of the IFRC, with due regard for the territorial integrity of the latter.
