

PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 25 September 1995

9980/95 (Presse 265)
P. 86/95

**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on the Middle East Peace Process**

The European Union expresses its deepest satisfaction at the achievement of the Interim Agreement, initialled in the Egyptian city of Taba on 24 September by Israel and the PLO. This agreement will pave the way for the second phase of Palestinian autonomy as envisaged in the Declaration of Principles.

The European Union applauds the clear-sightedness and political courage shown by both parties, which highlight their sincere will to achieve full and long-lasting peace in the Middle East. It likewise urges Israelis and Palestinians to continue working with the same determination to attain the ultimate goals of the Peace Process.

The European Union wishes to take advantage of this important opportunity to reiterate its political and economic commitment to the Middle East Peace Process and its unreserved support for peace and prosperity among the peoples of the region and their political, economic and social development.

9980/95 (Presse 265 - G)

EN