

RELEASE PRFSS

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DECLARATION OF THE PRESIDENCY ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION **ON ELECTIONS IN TANZANIA**

The EU would like to express its satisfaction at the holding of the first multy-party presidential and parliamentary elections in Tanzania. They constitute an important step forward to the consolidation of the democratic system in the country.

The EU notes in particular that, despite difficulties in ensuring that the electorate had the opportunity to express their choice, which required re-run in Dar Es Salaam constituencies, the final outcome of the union elections fairly reflects the will of the Tanzanian people.

However, the EU remains concerned about the disputed results of the Zanzibar presidential elections and hopes that the authorities concerned will draw appropriate conclusions to ensure a transparent democratic solution. The EU appeals to all parties to sustain their commitment to avoiding any recourse to violence.

Finally, the EU looks forward to working with the new Union government on the political and economic reform process and calls on all parties to work together constructively to promote further development of the democracy throughout the Union.

The EFTA countries members of the EEA, the Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union and the associated countries Cyprus and Malta align themselves with this declaration.