

P R E S S R E L E A S E

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**DECLARATION BY THE EUROPEAN UNION
ON THE ACCESSION OF CAMBODIA, LAOS AND BURMA/MYANMAR TO ASEAN**

The EU notes that ASEAN Foreign Ministers have decided to accept Cambodia, Laos and Burma/Myanmar as full ASEAN members on the occasion of the forthcoming ASEAN Ministerial meeting in July in Kuala Lumpur.

The EU looks forward to continued close cooperation between our two respective regions. The EU would like on this anniversary occasion to re-affirm its commitment to the EU-ASEAN dialogue, and to the promotion of shared values, including respect for human rights and democratic principles. It trusts that membership of ASEAN will further these aims in the new members states and in particular in Burma/Myanmar, where the situation in this regard continues to be of serious concern to the international community.