

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union  
concerning the Congo (Brazzaville)**

Deeply concerned at the situation in the Congo, the European Union calls on all parties to cease hostilities on a permanent basis and to work together for the restoration of civil peace and national reconciliation.

The European Union fully supports the mediation undertaken by President Bongo of Gabon in cooperation with Mr Mohamed Sahnoun, special representative of the UN and OAU Secretaries-General.

The European Union considers it essential for the Congo's future that the democratic process which was to lead to the presidential election should be resumed without delay. It is prepared to support the electoral process and to recommend that the appropriate bodies respond to any requests for emergency humanitarian aid submitted to it by the Congolese authorities.