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PRESS RELEASE

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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on the situation in the Comoros**

The European Union is concerned at the turn of events in the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros (IFRC). The Union reaffirms its attachment to respect for the territorial integrity of that country, which is a partner under the Lomé Convention. The Union supports the efforts of the UN and the OAU to help the Comoros find a peaceful and negotiated outcome of the current crisis.

The European Union calls upon the parties in question to use dialogue and consultation. It is persuaded that a lasting solution can come only from a peaceful approach based on respect for national cohesion.

The European Union will continue to ensure that its substantial aid for the development of the IFRC be applied in favour of all the peoples of that country.
