

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

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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on the progress of the intra-Togolese dialogue**

The European Union welcomes the promulgation of the new Togolese electoral code and encourages all of the partners in the intra-Togolese dialogue to play an active role in the Joint Monitoring Committee and in the establishment of the Independent National Electoral Committee.

Once the Independent National Electoral Committee has been established, the European Union considers that the conditions will be in place for fixing a date for elections, as provided for under the Lomé Framework Agreement.

The European Union expresses its willingness to continue to support the work of the facilitators, if so desired by all of the partners in the intra-Togolese dialogue, and to examine the possibilities of financial support for the electoral process, provided that the Togolese partners accept the principle of assistance in Lomé with identifying such measures.

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

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