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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on the terrorist attack in Jerusalem**

The European Union has learned with shock, consternation and profound dismay the news of the new terrorist attack perpetrated this morning in Jerusalem.

Once more, innocent lives have been mown down by the blind and criminal violence of a cowardly attack which the European Union condemns in the strongest terms.

While sending the most heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims and to the Government and people of Israel, the European Union appeals to everybody to give no quarter to the criminal network of those terrorist groups which are trying to hinder the Peace Process by bloody acts which offend the conscience of mankind.

In this regard, the European Union, while acknowledging the efforts made by the Palestinian Authority and President Arafat to combat terrorism, feels compelled to urge them once more to step up their action and to adopt more effective measures to put an end to these unacceptable terrorist attacks.

At this tragic and very sad moment, the European Union wants to express its most resolute and unconditional support for the Peace Process and to those who are bravely working at it.

Now more than ever, the European Union believes that there can be no alternatives to peace and dialogue and reaffirms its full support to them.