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**DECLARATION OF THE PRESIDENCY**  
**ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION**  
**ON AFGHANISTAN**

The European Union expresses its deep concern about the continuation of fighting in war-torn Afghanistan, especially the shelling and air attacks in and around the capital city of Kabul.

It urges all the parties involved to end the hostilities immediately and to allow the free passage and distribution of humanitarian aid to its civil population.

At the same time, while calling upon all states to refrain from interfering in Afghan internal affairs and to stop the flow of weapons to the Afghan parties, the European Union reaffirms its full support for the efforts of the United Nations special mission in Afghanistan to seek a peaceful solution to the conflict in close cooperation with all parties involved in the country.

The European Union, which remains one of the leading contributors of humanitarian aid to Afghanistan, underlines the need to continue the efforts to assist the people of Afghanistan, who are the main victims of the fighting. In this regard, it expresses its appreciation for the activities of the UN and NGO's in assisting the Afghan population and would like to make a special reference to the ICRC airlift of food supplies to Kabul to which certain Member states contributed.