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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on Liberia**

The European Union expresses its deep concern at the outbreak of fighting in Monrovia, which represents a serious threat to the peace process in Liberia.

The European Union is firmly convinced that the Abuja agreement provides the right framework for resolving the crisis and calls upon the Council of State, the Liberian national transitional government and the Liberian factions to implement it and to put the peace process back on track, in order to avoid further deterioration of the situation, and the violation of Human Rights.

The European Union condemns the loss of human lives and the harassment of the civilian population and humanitarian workers.

All parties concerned should prove their willingness to reestablish and maintain the cease-fire which represents the necessary prerequisite to disarmament and demobilization. The relevant measures and the necessary preparations can no longer be delayed.

The European Union asks the factions to return all weapons seized during the fighting to ecomog.

The European Union will base its attitude towards Liberia on the concrete steps taken by all parties concerned to implement the Abuja agreement and bring the conflict to an end.