

Brussels, 6 February 2001

5700/01 (Presse 39)

P 023/01

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

The European Union welcomes the announcement of a timetable for the parliamentary elections, taking place on 14th and 28th October 2001. The European Union considers these elections as essential for the appeasement of political life in Togo.

The European Union considers this announcement as a first step towards the normalisation of its relations to Togo and encourages all parties to pursue the implementation of the Lomé Framework Agreement, leading to a free, fair and transparent elections process

In this regard the European Union believes that its facilitators actively contribute to achieving necessary compromise solutions in the inter-Togolese dialogue.

The European Union re-iterates its willingness to assist technically and financially in the election process, if requested.

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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