

P R E S S   R E L E A S E

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**Statement by the Presidency  
on behalf of the European Union following the swearing in  
of Mrs Megawati Soekarnoputri as the 5<sup>th</sup> President of the Republic of Indonesia**

The European Union notes the swearing in of Mrs Megawati Soekarnoputri as the 5<sup>th</sup> President of the Republic of Indonesia at the extraordinary session of the People's Assembly (MPR) on 23 July in Djakarta. It notes with satisfaction that this transfer of power was completed in a democratic and peaceful manner.

The European Union congratulates Mrs Megawati Soekarnoputri on her assumption of office and expresses the hope that her country's political stability will emerge strengthened by this decision so that the Indonesian democratic authorities may press ahead with the political and economic reforms initiated.

The European Union calls on all parties to avoid any possible recourse to violence.

The European Union reiterates its full support for the territorial integrity of Indonesia, which it wishes to see strong, prosperous and democratic, and undertakes to pursue its full partnership with that country.

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