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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union  
on the appointment of a new Prime Minister in Nepal  
and the subsequent announcement of the ceasefire**

The European Union welcomes the appointment of Mr Sher Bahadur DEUBA as Nepal's new Prime Minister. It congratulates him on taking up his duties and expresses the hope that calm and stability will come again to Nepal.

The European Union welcomes the steps taken towards a cease fire. It would urge dialogue between the parties and hopes that dates may quickly be set for negotiations.

The European Union calls on the parties to renounce violence and seek a peaceful negotiated solution to the conflict so as to ensure the country's stable and lasting development.

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.