

**P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

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

The European Union welcomes the transfer by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the Netherlands of the two individuals charged with the bombing of Pan Am 103 for the purpose of trial as demanded by UNSCR 1192 (as well as its cooperation with the competent French authorities which has allowed a trial in the case of the bombing of UTA 772), thus bringing about the suspension of United Nations and European Union Lockerbie-related sanctions against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

The European Union has always called for a full investigation into the responsibility of the bombing of Pan Am 103 and a fair trial of the suspects. The European Union is convinced that the arrangements made for the Scottish court sitting in the Netherlands will guarantee such a fair trial.

Full compliance with the stipulations of all relevant UNSCRs will enable the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to regain its position as a full member of the international community in the near future. This will allow re-examining of the question of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya's participation in the Barcelona Process, which the European Union deems desirable. It is in the interest of stability in the Mediterranean basin that an important country, in a strategic position, such as the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, should not be excluded from this dialogue. This presupposes that, however, the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya must adopt and act in accordance with the basic principles laid down in the Barcelona Declaration. The suspension, and, in due course, lifting of the sanctions will open up new perspectives for the social and economic development of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

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The European Union thanks the Secretary-General of the United Nations for his diplomatic contribution to reaching an understanding with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on the implementation of UNSCR and also expresses appreciation for the contributions made by the Governments of South Africa, Saudi Arabia and other countries in support.

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