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**DECLARATION BY THE PRESIDENCY  
ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION CONCERNING SOMALIA**

The European Union strongly condemns the kidnapping of Mr Rudy Marcq who was working in Somalia for AICF, a humanitarian NGO.

It demands his immediate and unconditional release.

The European Union will, when examining the United Nations' inter-agency consolidated appeal on Somalia, give serious consideration to the guarantees which can be obtained for the safety of those working for humanitarian organizations in Somalia.