

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
CONCERNING GUINEA

The European Union is pleased at the manner in which the first free, multiparty, general election since independence was held in Guinea on 11 June 1995.

Although the electoral process seems to have revealed certain shortcomings, the European Union supports the opinion of the many on-the-spot observers who considered that the elections on 11 June progressed in a generally acceptable manner and that the outcome of the ballot reflected the will of the people. The European Union considers that the high turnout and the commitment shown by the electors under occasionally difficult conditions are indicative of the profound desire of the people of Guinea to be actively involved in the democratic development of their country.

The European Union hopes that the Parliament that has now been elected will play a leading role in consolidating the formation of a democratic society and calls upon all the political forces in the country to commit themselves in earnest to that path in order to secure stability, prosperity and peace for Guinea.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the Union align themselves with this declaration.