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

The European Union has learnt with great concern of the latest political developments in Zaire. It calls upon all parties concerned in Kinshasa to show the necessary restraint and respect the basic terms of the democratic transition process. The Union hopes that order in the capital will be maintained in a peaceful manner.

The Union calls upon all the parties to the conflict in Zaire to engage fully in the search for a speedy political solution and to refrain immediately from further violence. In this regard, the Union repeats its support for the peace plan of UN/OAU Special Representative Sahnoun. The present developments underscore the importance of a political solution to the conflict. The Union reiterates its support for the process of democratic transition, leading towards elections, as the only road towards a peaceful and stable situation.

As fighting proceeds in different parts of the country, the Union appeals to all parties to respect the rights of the civilian population, ensure the safety of foreign citizens and, if necessary, to facilitate their evacuation.

The EU stresses the most urgent need for humanitarian assistance to reach refugees and displaced persons.