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**DECLARATION BY THE PRESIDENCY ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ON
THE KOREAN PENINSULA**

The European Union reiterates its support for the proposed Four-Party Talks on the subject of the Korean Peninsula, bringing together the Republic of Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China and the United States of America. The European Union expresses its strong desire that North Korea should engage in the Four-Party Talks as soon as possible.

In addition, the European Union points out that the North-South dialogue constitutes another necessary precondition for detente on the Korean Peninsula.

Finally, the European Union wishes to emphasize that, in recent years in the humanitarian field, it has significantly contributed to alleviating the plight of the North-Korean population.