

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
regarding the situation of Mr Alpha Condé**

The European Union has taken note of the official announcement by the Public Prosecutor of the Republic of Guinea of the opening on 12 April 2000 of the trial of Mr Alpha Condé, who has been in custody since December 1998.

The EU expresses the hope that the trial will be conducted fairly and transparently, in full accordance with the law thereby ensuring that Mr Condé is in a position to defend himself on all charges brought against him.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the EFTA countries, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this declaration.

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