

Brussels, 20 July 1999

10253/99 (Presse 229)
P 71/99

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

The European Union is encouraged by the news of progress towards an end to the recent fighting in Kashmir and the resultant reduction in tension between India and Pakistan.

The Union is particularly gratified by the speed with which action has been taken to secure the disengagement of infiltrators and by the show of restraint in military operations while this has been taking place.

The European Union urges both India and Pakistan to continue to respect the inviolability of the Line of Control, to prevent any kind of infiltration across it, and to agree on cessation of fighting.

The European Union hopes that India and Pakistan resume their dialogue as soon as possible and that the two countries resolve their differences in a peaceful manner in the spirit of the Lahore declaration.
