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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on the Democratic Republic of Congo**

In her declaration 3 of September 1999, the European Union acknowledged the completion of the signing of the Lusaka agreement and expressed her readiness to support the implementation of the agreement, provided that all the parties themselves implement it in accordance with its terms.

However, the EU remains deeply concerned of the delays in the implementation of the agreement by the parties, and the continued military activities and hostile propaganda. The essential requirements for the implementation of the agreement have not been fulfilled: for instance, the selection of the representatives for the Joint Military Commission has not been completed and the facilitator for the national dialogue has not been agreed upon by all the parties.

The EU therefore strongly urges all parties to fully abide by the contents and time-table of the agreement, which is the negotiated instrument for a peaceful solution of the conflict. The EU also encourages the UN and the OAU to make all necessary efforts to support the implementation of the agreement.

The EU continues to be willing to support various components in the implementation of the agreement, such as the peace-keeping operations by the UN and the OAU, the Joint Military Commission, the national dialogue, the reintegration of refugees and displaced people in their countries of origin and the process of democratisation, rehabilitation and reconstruction in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

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