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DECLARATION BY THE PRESIDENCY
ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
ON THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY

In its statement of 7 August, the European Union urged all countries participating in the negotiation of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty in Geneva to accept and adopt the draft treaty text presented on 28 June by the Chairman of the Ad hoc Committee of the Conference on Disarmament.

The draft treaty text represents the outcome of two and a half years of intensive negotiations and embodies a large number of delicate and balanced compromises. In the EU view, it offers an historic opportunity to have a treaty which bans all nuclear test explosions for all time.

Proceedings in Geneva must reflect the sense of urgency felt by the international community. The EU believes that further urgent efforts must now be made to ensure that the draft text is adopted and opened for signature within the agreed timetable.

The EFTA Countries members of the EEA, the Central and Eastern European Countries associated with the European Union and the associated countries Cyprus and Malta align themselves with this Declaration.