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**DECLARATION BY THE PRESIDENCY ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ON
THE PEACE PROCESS IN THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES**

The European Union welcomes the successful conclusion of the Peace Talks between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF). It applauds the efforts of all the parties involved, including the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the Government of Indonesia.

The European Union expresses the hope that the Agreement concluded in Jakarta and the establishment of the Southern Philippines Council for Peace and Development will lead to a general reconciliation and usher in a new era of peace and prosperity.
