

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Brussels, 20 September 2001

12086/01 (Presse 328)

P 154/01

Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the inter-Korean ministerial meeting from 15 to 18 September 2001

The European Union is pleased to note that an inter-Korean ministerial meeting was held from 15 to 18 September 2001.

The Union welcomes the encouraging results of that meeting, such as the announcement of a further reunion of families, a new round of inter-governmental talks and the resumption of some projects such as the construction of a rail link between North and South. It hopes that the inter-Korean talks will lead to a second summit as envisaged in the Joint Declaration of 15 June 2000.

The European Union hopes that the DPRK will become more fully involved with the international community. In particular, the EU would warmly welcome the rapid resumption of contacts between the DPRK and the USA.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, as fellow associated countries, and those EFTA countries which are members of the European Economic Area endorse this declaration.

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