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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union  
on the signature of the African Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Treaty  
(Pelindaba Treaty)**

The European Union welcomes the signature in Cairo on 11 April 1996 of the Pelindaba Treaty establishing the African Nuclear Weapon Free Zone.

The Treaty is in line with the Decision on Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament issued by the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference which recognised that the creation of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones enhances global and regional peace and security.

The European Union considers that Nuclear Weapon Free Zones are welcome complementary instruments to the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons the universality of which the European Union continues to promote.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union and the associated countries Cyprus and Malta align themselves with this declaration.