

Brussels, 28 July 2001
10932/01 (Presse 290)
P 130/01

Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
upon the inauguration of President Alejandro Toledo of Peru

The European Union congratulates His Excellency Mr Alejandro Toledo on his inauguration as constitutional President of the Republic of Peru and offers its most sincere good wishes for his success in the high office to which he has been elected, for his personal well-being and for that of the Peruvian people.

The new President has expressed his political will to strengthen democracy, to promote political dialogue and national reconciliation, together with respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, to stimulate the search for truth, to strengthen the legal system, to encourage the fight against illegal drugs and to consolidate the recovery of the Peruvian economy.

The European Union and its Member States applaud these commitments and look forward to cooperating with President Toledo to help him meet the important political, social and economic challenges in these areas and in others, such as the reduction of extreme poverty.

The European Union also wishes to express its appreciation of the efforts already made by Mr Valentín Paniagua's transitional government to lay a solid foundation on which the new government can build.

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