



EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 20 May 2011
A 192/11

Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court by Grenada

Catherine Ashton, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the Commission, made today the following statement:

"I warmly welcome the ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court by Grenada on 19 May 2011 and congratulate the Grenada Government for their achievement.

I am sure that Grenada's ratification will serve as an encouragement to the remaining three countries in the Caribbean region (The Bahamas, Haiti and Jamaica), which have not ratified the ICC yet. The European Union has long supported the ratification by Grenada of the Rome Statute.

This ratification is also in line with the commitments to work towards ratification of the Rome Statute taken by the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries under the Cotonou agreement.

The ratification by Grenada, which is the 115th country to become a State Party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, shows the continuous support for the Court by States in all regions of the world. A steady increase in the number of ratifications demonstrates that the Court is a reality, which everybody must recognise."

P R E S S

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