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

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 Cape Verde on 10 October 2011 and congratulate the Cape Verdean Government for their achievement. The Court is the expression of a rule-based international order to ensure that there is no impunity for the most serious crimes of international concern and their prosecution is ensured in a fair and independent manner. The European Union has long supported the ratification of the Rome Statute.

With its decision Cape Verde once more confirmed its commitment to the rule of law. The ratification by Cape Verde, which is the 119th 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."

P R E S S

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