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Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the ratification of Rome Statute of ICC by Maldives

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

"I warmly welcome the ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court by the Maldives on 21 September 2011 and congratulate the Government of the Maldives on its achievement. With its decision, the Maldives once more confirmed its commitment to the rule of law.

With this accession, the Maldives join the ever-growing number of states who are determined that there should be no impunity for the most serious crimes.

The European Union has long supported the International Criminal Court, and I use this opportunity to call upon states which have not yet done so to accede to the Rome Statute."

P R E S S

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