



EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 23 January 2012
A 21/12

**Statement by the Spokesperson of
High Representative Catherine Ashton
on the ICC's decision to lay formal charges against four individuals in
relation to the 2007-2008 post-election violence in Kenya**

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

“High Representative Catherine Ashton today took note of the International Criminal Court's decision to confirm charges against William Ruto, Joshua Sang, Uhuru Kenyatta and Francis Muthaura. The EU supports the Court and its independence.

Justice, reconciliation and accountability are pivotal for the lasting stability of Kenya. The ICC proceedings are an important contribution to this end. The High Representative not only calls upon the named individuals to continue to cooperate fully with the ICC, but equally urges the Government of Kenya to respect its obligations as a State Party to the Rome Statute of the ICC. She also appeals to all parties concerned to react responsibly to this ICC decision and avoid any action that may precipitate violence.

In addition, the High Representative encourages the Government of Kenya to ensure the establishment of a local mechanism to bring others implicated in the post-election violence to justice.”

P R E S S

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