STATEMENT

by Catherine Ashton, EU High Representative, on the appointment of Mr Mehdi Jomaa as Prime Minister of Tunisia

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

‘I welcome the encouraging developments in the national dialogue which have led to the appointment of Mehdi Jomaa as Prime Minister.

I hope that this first stage will quickly be followed by the forming of a government in accordance with the roadmap laid down by the Quartet and that Tunisia’s democratic transition will continue with the holding, within a reasonable period, of new general, inclusive, transparent and credible elections.

I call on the parties involved to comply with the constitutional law based on the rules laid down after the 2011 elections and stress the need for all the Tunisian transition partners to reach consensus.

The European Union commends the perseverance of the Quartet in its quest for a consensual solution and reiterates its support for the Tunisian transition.’