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

"I regret the adoption of the Anti-Homosexuality Bill in Uganda. The implementation of this law would contravene essential principles of non-discrimination enshrined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political rights and in the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights, both ratified by Uganda.

I urge the Ugandan authorities to ensure respect of the principle of non-discrimination, guaranteed in the Ugandan Constitution, and to preserve a climate of tolerance for all minorities in Uganda."