Statement by
the spokesperson of HR Catherine Ashton,
on the recent attacks against mosques in Somalia

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

"The High Representative strongly condemns recent attacks against mosques in Somalia, including the bomb attack on May 1st against the Dabaqeyn Mosque in the Abdulla Shideye area of Mogadishu. This cruel act killed and gravely wounded many civilians who were attending the mid-day prayer.

The European Union is deeply concerned by the civilian casualties, often women and children, which result from the fighting in Somalia, including through terrorist attacks.

The EU further deplores severe abuses of human rights, such as cruel punishment, repressive social control, massive displacement and disruption of access to humanitarian aid.

The High Representative reiterates her appreciation and support to the United Nations and the African Union for their efforts and calls on all parties to the conflict to work for the future of Somalia."