Statement by the spokesperson of the HR Catherine Ashton on Guinea

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

"The European Union is deeply concerned by the announcement of a postponement of the second round of presidential elections and rising tensions linked to the lack of progress in the electoral process in Guinea.

It shares the recently expressed positions of the African Union and calls on the Independent National Electoral Commission to swiftly propose a new date for the second round of presidential elections, without any delays other than those strictly necessary to remove the identified technical obstacles. It also urges the transitional authorities to confirm this date as soon as possible.

The EU believes that any such undue delay risks undermining a democratic process of historical importance.

The EU welcomes the ongoing commitment to democracy of the President of Transition, General Sékouba Konaté, and encourages all political actors in Guinea to recover their sense of historical responsibility, compromise and dialogue, which enabled Guinea to initiate this year a successful transition in view of the restoration of constitutional order."

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