Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of E3+3 after the talks with Iran, Geneva 6-7 December 2010

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

"We have had nearly two days of detailed substantive talks focusing on the Iranian nuclear programme and the need for Iran to comply with its international obligations.

The countries I represent are united in seeking a resolution of the international community's concerns regarding Iran's nuclear programme - which is the central purpose of these talks. We recognise Iran's rights, but insist that it fulfils its obligations.

We are ready to address and to seek common ground also on other issues of mutual interest.

We and Iran agreed to a continuation of these talks in late January in Istanbul, where we plan to discuss practical ideas and ways of cooperating towards a resolution of our core concerns about the nuclear issue."

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