Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the political situation in the Comoros

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

"The High Representative notes the definitive results of the elections announced by the Constitutional Court of the Union of the Comoros which, in accordance with its mandate, pronounced its verdict after having examined the appeals lodged by the various candidates. She notes that the Constitutional Court has invalidated the results of several polling stations, in particular in Anjouan, on the grounds of irregularities and shortcomings.

She urges the signatories to the Agreement of 16 June 2010 to hand over power as planned to the new President-elect, Mr Ikililou Dhoinine, and to the governors-elect, Mr Mohamed Ali Said, Governor of the Autonomous Island of Mwali, Mr Anissi Chamsidine, Governor of the Autonomous Island of Nzwani, and Mr Mouigni Baraka Said Solihi, Governor of the Autonomous Island of Ngazidja.

The High Representative reiterates the EU's commitment to supporting the Union of the Comoros in its efforts to ensure the country's sustainable development within the framework of the partnership established by the Cotonou Agreement. She would point out that support for the democratisation process, the promotion of human rights, consolidation of the rule of law and good governance are key elements of that partnership."

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