Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the occasion of the inauguration of Afghanistan's National Assembly on 26 January 2011

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

"I warmly welcome today’s inauguration of Afghanistan’s National Assembly, which marks an important step in Afghanistan’s democratic development as the National Assembly resumes its legislative functions. I commend the spirit of cooperation and consensus that helped to pave the way for the Assembly to convene.

I trust that the new Assembly and the Government will do everything they can to ensure that Afghanistan moves forward on a path to lasting stability in the context of the transition and the Kabul process. The EU will continue to support Afghanistan in its efforts to build and consolidate its democratic political system."

EUROPEAN UNION

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