Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative
Catherine Ashton on Bahrain

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:

"High Representative Catherine Ashton has been closely following the events taking place in Bahrain. She is very concerned by the events which took place overnight.

The High Representative strongly deplores the loss of life and violence and calls for calm and restraint in this situation. She also calls on the Bahraini authorities to fully respect and protect the fundamental rights of their citizens, including the right to assemble peacefully.

The peaceful expression of people's concerns should be met through dialogue."

___________________