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Statement by the spokesperson of Catherine Ashton, EU High Representative, on the recent conclusion of the Darfur All Stakeholders Conference in Doha, Qatar (27-31 May 2011)

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 of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy welcomes the outcome of the All Darfur Stakeholders’ Conference as the basis for reaching a permanent ceasefire and sustainable peace and stability in Darfur.

The High Representative thanks His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, for all the support his Government has given to the Doha-based Darfur Peace Process over the last two and a half years. She particularly thanks His Excellency Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Ahmed Al Mahmoud and UN/AU Joint Chief Mediator Djibril Bassolé for their perseverance, patience and continuous efforts to move the process forward.

The High Representative calls on the parties to end hostilities without delay, sign a ceasefire and make the compromises necessary to reach a comprehensive, inclusive and sustainable peace. The EU stands ready to play an active role in follow-up to the Conference."

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