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Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court by Vanuatu

Catherine Ashton, the 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 the accession to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court by Vanuatu on 2 December 2011 and congratulate the Government of Vanuatu for its achievement. Through this decision Vanuatu has once more confirmed its commitment to the global rule of law.

This accession represents an historic step, as it brings the number of States Parties to 120, thereby equalling the number of States who voted for the original adoption of the Rome Statute in 1998."