Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the bomb attacks in Iraq

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 condemns in the strongest possible terms the latest attacks in a number of cities across Iraq, claiming the lives of dozens of people. She expresses her deepest condolences to the families of the victims and to those injured.

The High Representative expresses confidence that the Iraqi people will remain steadfast in their continued rejection of attempts by extremists to undermine their security and the stability of Iraq. She reiterates her call on the Government and Iraqi political groups to engage in an inclusive and genuine dialogue to address political differences. Ensuring that the government in Iraq is both effective and inclusive stands the best chance to defy the continuing violence."