Statement by EU High Representative, Catherine Ashton, concerning the DPRK’s “satellite” launch

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

“I am deeply concerned about the dangerous and destabilising actions undertaken by the DPRK today. Regardless of its stated purpose, today’s attempted launch is a clear violation of the DPRK’s international obligations as set out in particular under UN Security Council Resolution 1874.

I call upon the DPRK to abide by its obligations under relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, its IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement under the NPT, and its commitments towards denuclearisation under the 2005 Joint Statement of the Six Party Talks. I also urge DPRK to refrain from any action that could further increase regional tensions.

The EU is ready to continue working with its international partners, with a view to contributing to the pursuit of lasting peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula.”