Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the announcement of preliminary results of Libyan elections

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

"Following the announcement of the preliminary results for the election of the Libyan National Congress I would like to reiterate my warm congratulations to the Libyan people for their determination to move forward on the road to democracy in a peaceful and dignified manner.

I wish to extend these congratulations to the Libyan authorities and more particularly to the High National Election Commission and commend the professional way in which they are conducting the electoral process. The EU Electoral Assessment Team (EU EAT) has assessed that the processing of results at the Tally Centre in Tripoli has been transparent and fully open to observation.

The EU looks forward to working with the future Libyan government to be appointed following the establishment of the General National Congress, and hopes that the appointment process will retain the momentum of transition and enable the consolidation of a stable and prosperous society based on respect for fundamental freedoms, human rights and the rule of law."

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