Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the vote of the UNSC resolution on Syria

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

“I deeply regret that, despite the serious deterioration of the situation in Syria, the members of the UN Security Council could not agree on a resolution to add more effective and robust pressure to end the violence in Syria and allow for a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

The current escalating violence in the country requires urgent and united action by the UNSC and the international community to enforce Kofi Annan’s peace plan. I call once more all members of the Security Council to assume their responsibilities to end the bloodshed and suffering of the Syrian population. After 16 months of continuous violence, it is of the utmost priority that the international community acts with unity to prevent a civil war with tragic consequences for the entire region.

I will continue supporting Kofi Annan and his plan as the best solution to resolve the situation in Syria and I urge all the parties to support Kofi Annan’s efforts in this respect.”