EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 26 August 2012
A 379/12

Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on executions in The Gambia

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 strongly condemn the executions which have reportedly taken place on Thursday 23 August 2012, following President Jammeh’s stated intention to carry out all death penalties before mid-September.

I demand the immediate halt of the executions.

I recall the international commitments made by the Government of The Gambia, as well as the commitments concerning the respect of Human Rights contained in the Cotonou Agreement, which governs relations between the European Union and The Gambia.

In light of these executions, the European Union will urgently consider an appropriate response."

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