Statement by the Spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the adoption of a UN Security Council resolution on Mali

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 welcomes the UNSC Resolution on Mali. She shares the support expressed in the Resolution for the enforcement of Malian sovereignty on the whole of its territory in a framework relying as far as possible on dialogue as well as on the need to address human rights and humanitarian relief concerns. As the Security Council has rightly stated, it is the primary responsibility of the Malian authorities to protect civilians in Mali.

In this regard, the High Representative recalls her commitment to work in close cooperation with the Malian authorities and international partners in support of a solution for this crisis.

The EU, whose readiness to provide support through a training mission of the Malian armed forces as well as a financial contribution to the AFISMA has been recalled by the UNSCR, stresses in this respect the importance of progress on the political track of the transition in Mali, in particular with regards to the roadmap towards elections and the dialogue with those Northern rebel groups that renounce terrorism.”