Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the formation of an Interim Election Council in Nepal

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:

"High Representative Catherine Ashton welcomes the formation of an Interim Election Council in Nepal to conduct national and local elections. She commends Nepal's political leaders for making the necessary concessions to guarantee that elections will be held in 2013 and encourages all parties to extend their support to the newly appointed Interim Election Council Chairman as he undertakes this crucial and complex task.

Credible, transparent and inclusive elections are vital to meeting the rights and aspirations of the people; to reviving Nepal's democratic institutions; to finalising a new constitution; and to securing a lasting peace."

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