Statement by the Spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton following her meeting with Nicaraguan Minister of Foreign Affairs Samuel Santos López

The Spokesperson of Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the Commission, made the following statement today:

"The High Representative met today the Nicaraguan Minister of Foreign Affairs Samuel Santos on the occasion of his visit to Brussels, where he participated in high-level meetings with the European External Action Service.

The EU and Nicaragua have enjoyed longstanding cooperation. Nicaragua has shown its commitment to this relationship by being the first Central American country to ratify the recently concluded European Union/Central America Association Agreement. The upcoming provisional entry into force of the Agreement represents an excellent opportunity to enhance, both with Nicaragua and with Central America as a whole, political cooperation as well as economic links.

The EU has provided financial and political support to Nicaragua by allocating considerable cooperation resources and by sending an Electoral Observation Mission to the 2011 elections. The EU is committed to continue working with Nicaragua on all aspects of the relationship".

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:
Michael Mann +32 498 999 780 - +32 2 584 9780- Michael.Mann@eeas.europa.eu
Maja Kocijancic +32 498 984 425 - +32 2 298 65 70 - Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu
Sebastien Brabant +32 460 75 09 98 - Sebastien.Brabant@ec.europa.eu
Eamonn Prendergast +32 460 753 293 - Eamonn.Prendergast@ec.europa.eu
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www.eeas.europa.eu