Statement by the Spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the decision of the Maldivian High Court to overturn a sentence of flogging

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 recent decision of the Maldivian High Court to overturn the flogging sentence for the 15 year old girl who was a victim of abuse.

The High Representative encourages the Government of the Maldives to further strengthen the mechanism of protection of women and children and stresses the importance of complying with international human rights obligations".