

EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 8 October 2012 A 443/12

Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the conclusion of the framework peace agreement between the government of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front

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

"I wish to express my congratulations to the Government of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front on the successful conclusion of the negotiations on the Framework Peace Agreement in Manila on 7 October, 2012.

The EU recognizes the contribution of the Malaysian facilitator of the peace talks, Tengku Dato' Ab Ghafar Tengku Mohamed as well as the members of the International Contact Group, to the successful conclusion of the peace negotiations.

The early signature of this truly historical document is a major step towards a long-lasting peace in Mindanao, which will lead the island to stability and prosperity.

The EU, as a member of the International Monitoring Team and major development partner in poverty alleviation in Mindanao since 1990, will continue to lend its full support."



FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

Michael Mann +32 498 999 780 - +32 2 299 97 80 - 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 <u>COMM-SPP-HRVP-ASHTON@ec.europa.eu</u> <u>www.ceas.europa.eu</u>