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## STATEMENT

## by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the passing away of Nelson Mandela

The High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission, issued the following statement today:

" More than anyone else, Nelson Mandela inspired my generation and our world.

Today we grieve his death but also celebrate his life. He not only defeated apartheid in South Africa; he showed people in every continent that the moral force of democracy could overcome the barren might of tyranny. Each time I met him, his gentle strength and undimmed passion confirmed my conviction that democrats everywhere owe him a vast and lasting debt. "

## FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

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