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STATEMENT

by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on Fiji's progress towards democracy

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

"I welcome the publication today by the Fijian Government of the Electoral Decree, the appointment of a Supervisor of Elections and the announcement of 17 September 2014 as the date of the elections. These are important milestones in Fiji's transition to democracy.

I am looking forward to an electoral process that ensures equal opportunities to all candidates and political parties with free and balanced media coverage. A credible transparent and inclusive process will be important in assuring the people of Fiji and international partners of the legitimacy of the outcome of the elections."