

Brussels, 18 June 2014 140618/02

## STATEMENT

## by the Spokesperson on the World Bank's Rogun Assessment Studies

"The EU has been consistently supportive of the World Bank's efforts to ensure an independent, technical assessment of the proposed Rogun Hydropower Project in Tajikistan. We will carefully review the comprehensive draft final studies released on 17 June 2014. We note already with great interest the findings contained in the World Bank Draft for Discussion "Key Issues for Consideration on the Proposed Rogun Hydropower Project".

We reiterate that the World Bank assessments should serve as an input into a wider constructive dialogue among all riparian countries about both the project itself and cooperation regarding the use of energy and international water resources in Central Asia more generally. This is in line with the long tradition of cooperation and vast experience in the management of trans-boundary waters in Europe. It is also consistent with the principles of EU Water Diplomacy adopted on 22 July 2013 by the Foreign Affairs Council.

We call on the countries concerned to engage in an inclusive dialogue to identify sustainable solution in the field of water management in Central Asia."