

Brussels, 08 July 2014 140708/01

STATEMENT

by the Spokesperson on the second round of the presidential elections in Afghanistan

"We note the publication of the preliminary results of the second round of the presidential election in Afghanistan and the fact that these results are subject to further audits.

The EU calls on the Independent Election Commission to cooperate fully with the Independent Electoral Complaints Commission and the United Nations. The electoral institutions must ensure that audits of the votes agreed by the two candidates are carried out thoroughly and transparently to ensure that the serious allegations of fraud are properly investigated and to verify that the final results reflect the will of the Afghan people.

It is vital that both candidates continue to direct any complaints through the appropriate mechanisms. We urge both Dr. Abdullah and Dr. Ghani and their supporters to refrain from actions and statements that risk inflaming tensions."