

Brussels, 25 July 2014 140725/05

STATEMENT

by the Spokesperson on the election of the new President of Iraq

"The EU welcomes the election of a new President of Iraq and congratulates Fuad Masum on his election.

This election by the Council of Representatives is a positive step which further improves the prospects of a political solution being found in Iraq. A political solution is essential for the terrorist threat to be countered and the present crisis to be overcome.

The EU now calls on all Iraq's political leaders to work towards the speedy formation of a new government under a leadership seeking national participation and broad national reconciliation.

The EU continues to be deeply concerned about the security situation in Iraq, which threatens the stability of Iraq and the region and has resulted in a serious humanitarian crisis. It reiterates its firm commitment to Iraq's unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity."