FEDERICA MOGHERINI

HIGH REPRESENTATIVE

VICE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 23/01/2015

H.R.H. Prince Muqrin bin Abdulaziz Al Saud Crown Prince Deputy Prime Minister Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Your Royal Highness,

I have been saddened by the news of the passing of H.M. King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and would like to express my sincere condolences to you and your family, both in my personal capacity and as EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission.

King Abdullah was a strong partner for Europe and a man of great vision. His legacy will be remembered in the European Union, as his reign was marked by a number of important steps towards the Kingdom's transformation. He has played a crucial role in the region with his courageous stance on seeking a sustainable solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict through the Arab Peace Initiative that he sponsored, and by his engagement for inter-faith dialogue.

I would also like to convey my best wishes on your appointment on 23 January 2015 as Crown Prince of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by His Majesty King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, both on a personal basis as well as in my role as High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and as Vice president of the European Commission.

We in the European Union know and respect you for your strong commitment to ensuring the stability and prosperity of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and to supporting regional peace and stability over the years.

I am confident that under your leadership the deep and longstanding friendship between the European Union and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will continue to develop for the mutual benefit of our people and of all in the region.

I wish you every success in your new capacity, and very much hope to have an opportunity to meet you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Federica Mogherini