



EUROPEAN UNION

DELEGATION TO THE REPUBLIC OF SUDAN

Catherine Ashton: Deeply concerned by violence in the current protests in Sudan



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

"The High Representative is deeply concerned by reports of violence and significant loss of life during protests in cities across Sudan over the past week.

The High Representative condemns violence by either protestors or government forces and urges all parties to exercise maximum restraint. The High Representative calls especially on the Government of Sudan to refrain from excessive use of force and to respect the freedom of expression, media and peaceful assembly. Those detained should be given the opportunity for a fair trial, the media should be allowed to operate freely and a credible investigation should be conducted into incidents that have led to loss of life, injury and material damage.

The High Representative calls on the Government of Sudan to carry through its commitment to begin an inclusive national dialogue that will strengthen national unity and promote democratic governance."

Brussels, 30 September 2013
130930/01