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**Remarks to the press
by
Javier SOLANA,
EU High Representative for the CFSP,
on President Obama's speech in Cairo**

"A new page in relations with the Arab-Muslim world"

Javier SOLANA, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), made the following comments to reporters today following the speech by US President Barack OBAMA:

"President Obama's speech in Cairo today was a remarkable speech, both in its content and in its form. It was a speech that without any doubt will open a new page in relations with the Arab-Muslim world and I hope in the efforts to solve the many problems we have in so many theatres in the region.

I found many things in this speech that represent a meeting of minds with what the European Union has been defending for some time. I am very pleased that they were expressed so clearly, so convincingly and in such a remarkable way by the President of the United States.

I think that together we – the EU, the US and the countries in the region – can begin to solve the many problems that face us in the Middle East.

My telephone has not stopped ringing since Mr Obama finished speaking and the first reactions of prime ministers, ministers and important friends, of everybody to whom I have spoken, were positive.

Everyone was very favourably impressed and I think the climate created by the speech is very constructive.

Now, what we cannot do is fail. Now we have to really move, together, and try and to do what has to be done. There is no time to lose.

I will be travelling to the Middle East next week. I hope that we will have the opportunity to follow up on the many issues that have been mentioned today because it has been our dream for so many years. You know how engaged I have been in the relationship with the region."

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

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