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Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the recent LTTE statement of its intention to suspend participation for the time being in the peace negotiations in Sri Lanka

The EU notes with concern the recent LTTE statement of its intention to suspend participation for the time being in the peace negotiations. It calls on both parties to continue to comply with the Ceasefire Agreement of 22 February 2002. It urges the LTTE to continue to participate fully in the talks and to commit itself to attending the Tokyo reconstruction conference. An early normalisation of living conditions in Sri Lanka will be dependent on the positive contribution of both parties and a successful Tokyo conference. It is in the long-term interests of all people in Sri Lanka to keep the peace process on track. The EU re-iterates its commitment to supporting the peace process.

The Acceding Countries Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, the Slovak Republic and Slovenia, the Associated Countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey and the EFTA countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this declaration.

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