EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 7 March 2013
A 118/13

Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the detention of UN peacekeepers by an armed opposition group in Syria

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 alarmed by the detention of more than 20 peacekeepers from the Philippines, members of the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) on the Golan.

The EU condemns arbitrary detentions and actions such as hostage-taking as they are serious breaches of international law. The EU considers any attacks on the UN or its personnel unacceptable and demands the immediate and unconditional release of the peacekeepers.

The High Representative calls for good and swift cooperation of the parties to resolve the situation as soon as possible.

She calls on all parties involved to refrain from any actions that may have negative effects on regional stability and to respect UN Security Council resolutions and the status of UNDOF."

P R E S S

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