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S T A T E M E N T

**by the Spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton
following her visit to Egypt**

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:

"High Representative Ashton's visit to Egypt on 10 April came at a time of significant change. She met interim President Adly Mansour, interim Foreign Minister Nabil Fahmy, the former President of the Constitutional Drafting Committee Amr Moussa, Field Marshal Abdel Fatah al-Sissi as well as the Secretary General of the League of Arab States Nabil El Arabi.

In the course of her discussions, the High Representative finalised agreement on the Election Observation Mission for the forthcoming Presidential elections and discussed a number of regional issues, including the Middle East Peace Process and Syria.

She discussed the economic challenges and the potential for EU engagement with Egypt as well as existing commitments.

The High Representative also raised with all interlocutors the growing concerns about the death penalty notices as well as the detention of journalists and activists."

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

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