



EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 20 April 2010
A 62/10

Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on adoption of Constitutional Amendment in Pakistan

Catherine Ashton, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the Commission, made the following statement:

"I would like to congratulate Pakistan on the adoption of the 18th Constitutional Amendment. This important reform package is yet another positive step towards strengthening democracy in Pakistan and towards a stronger partnership with the European Union.

I commend the inclusive approach taken, which produced a bill that received broad support in Parliament. It paves the way for promoting good governance and human rights, sustainable development and countering militant extremism and terrorism.

I trust that with this step Pakistan has consolidated its transition to parliamentary democracy following the February 2008 elections, which were observed by the European Union."

P R E S S

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