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STATEMENT

BY THE SPOKESPERSON OF EU HIGH REPRESENTATIVE CATHERINE ASHTON ON THE VISIT OF SUDANESE PRESIDENT AL-BASHIR TO CHAD

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 deeply regrets the visit of Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir to Chad on 11 May. Chad, like all Parties to the Rome Statute, is under the legal obligation to co-operate with the Court and indeed to arrest and surrender anyone sought by the Court.

The normalisation of the relations between Chad and Sudan is a positive sign. However, non-cooperation with the ICC is a serious shortcoming, as the Court is a vital instrument for combating impunity for the most serious crimes of concern to the international community."

FOR FURTHER DETAILS: