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Item 38 of the preliminary list*

SUPPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF THE EFFORTS OF GOVERNMENTS
TO PROMOTE AND CONSOLIDATE NEW OR RESTORED DEMOCRACIES

Letter dated 12 June 1997 from the Permanent Representative
of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement issued on
2 June 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union concerning the legislative
elections in Algeria (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its
annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 38 of the
preliminary list.

(Signed) N. H. BIEGMAN
Permanent Representative
of the Netherlands
to the United Nations

* A/52/50.

ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Statement issued on 10 June 1997 by the Presidency of the
European Union on the legislative elections in Algeria

The European Union expresses its satisfaction at the holding of legislative elections on 5 June 1997, which enabled the Algerian electorate to vote in orderly and safe conditions. The Union takes note of the declaration made by the joint group of international observers, confirming that polling took place under generally satisfactory conditions, although some notable imperfections were recorded. The holding of these elections marks a step forward in the process of political reform and bears witness to the Algerian people's wish to take charge of its future and to participate directly in the building of a democratic and non-violent society.

The European Union hopes that the new Assembly will act as a driving force in the process of democratization and economic restructuring in Algeria.
