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GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Fifty-fourth session  
Agenda items 20 (b) and 116 (c)  
STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF  
HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF  
ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS,  
INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC  
ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC  
ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES  
OR REGIONS  
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS  
SITUATIONS AND REPORTS OF SPECIAL  
RAPPORTEURS AND REPRESENTATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 2 November 1999 from the Permanent  
Representative of Finland to the United Nations  
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union on the extension of the ceasefire in the Sudan issued on 21 October 1999 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Marjatta RASI  
Permanent Representative  
of Finland to the  
United Nations

Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the extension of the ceasefire in the Sudan issued  
on 21 October 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union on  
behalf of the European Union

The European Union welcomes the decision made by the Sudanese Government as well as the Sudan People's Liberation Army to extend the ceasefire in the southern Sudan for a further three months. The European Union considers this an important measure in enhancing and securing the supply of humanitarian aid in the war-affected areas as well as a positive step towards an atmosphere conducive to achieving a lasting peace.

The European Union reiterates its appeal to both parties to proceed to a permanent and comprehensive humanitarian ceasefire and to a prompt resumption of the peace negotiations in Nairobi, as decided in the last round of talks within the Intergovernmental Authority on Development peace process.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus and Malta, and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with the present statement.

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