



Security Council

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Letter dated 23 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention a statement on Guinea-Bissau issued on 19 May 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) António **Monteiro**
Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations

Annex to the letter dated 23 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Statement on Guinea-Bissau issued on 19 May 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union expresses its concern at the ongoing climate of tension and insecurity in Guinea-Bissau and at reports of indiscipline in some sectors of the armed forces.

The European Union urges all in Guinea-Bissau, in particular the military, to continue to take forward the positive developments of last year, with the holding of fair, free and democratic elections which led to a democratic transition of power.

The European Union stresses the need for a full return to civil rule, effective functioning of democratic institutions and a peaceful environment as prerequisites for the continuation of foreign investments, and the financial and economic aid that the country urgently needs.

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