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Foreign Affairs Council, 3209th meeting: extracts from the press conference by Catherine Ashton

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On 10 December 2012, Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the EC, gave a press conference following the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC), in Brussels. On this occasion, she spoke about the situation in Egypt and Syria and expressed EU support to the people of Egypt and the work of Lakhdar Brahimi, Special Representative of the UN and the League of Arab States for Syria. She also stressed the concern of the Member States regarding the potentially use of chemical weapons and their need for an all-inclusive dialogue.

Only the original language version is authentic and it prevails in the event of its differing from the translated versions.

TIME	DESCRIPTION	DURATION
10:00:00	Title	00:00:05
10:00:05	Arrival of Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the EC, to the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) in Brussels (2 shots)	00:00:05
10:00:10	Soundbite by Catherine Ashton (in ENGLISH): We agreed in the FAC that the EU accepts the coalition as legitimate representative of the Syrian people. We continue to work and support the work of Lakhdar Brahimi, Special Representative of the UN and the League of Arab States for Syria, and we are very concerned of the situation in the country is becoming worst every day. We have made consistently our demands for an end for this totally inacceptable violence.	00:00:28
10:00:39	General view of the conference room	00:00:03
10:00:42	Soundbite by Catherine Ashton (in ENGLISH): Member States have raised a serious concern about the potentially use of chemical weapons and we said to the regime that they will be held accountable for this. And we also condemn the recently limitations on the use of the internet in Syria.	00:00:20
10:01:03	Cutaway of the audience	00:00:04

10:01:08	Soundbite by Catherine Ashton (in ENGLISH): We very much regret the recent violence in Egypt and the death and injuries that have been caused. Everyone agreed that we need to see a de-escalation of situation and an all-inclusive dialogue. I have been in constant touch over the past days with the main political protagonists. We have repeated the same consistent message that we will support the people of Egypt trough the transition in any way that we can. That requires dialogue to continue and for all sides to come together and reach an agreement. And it requires a good and strong constitution. It is vital that Egypt continues on its path to democratic transition and we are there to help in that process.	00:00:44
10:01:52	Catherine Ashton leaving the press conference	00:00:09

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