

## **EUROPEAN UNION**

## OSCE Permanent Council Nr 1001 Vienna, 22 May 2014

## **EU Statement on the Presidential Elections in Afghanistan**

The European Union has taken note of the final results of the Presidential elections, conducted in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan on 5 April 2014, as announced by the Independent Election Commission on 14 May. We want to use this opportunity to commend the Afghan authorities for the way the results of these elections have been processed, including the adjudication of complaints procedure.

We also took note of the announcement that a run-off election between the two leading candidates will be organised on 14 June 2014. We appreciate the work carried out by the EU Election Assessment Team and by the ODIHR Election Support Team, who will remain in Afghanistan until the election process is completed.

We express our hope that the second round of these important elections will provide another opportunity for the Afghan people to decide on their future and will be conducted in an equally inclusive, transparent and credible way that will lead to a legitimate final outcome.