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Statement by the Spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Eastern Congo following the Communiqué of Kampala

The spokesperson of Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission issued the following statement today:

"The High Representative would like to welcome the statement jointly endorsed by Presidents Museveni, Kagame and Kabila following their meeting in Kampala on the situation in Eastern Congo, convened by President Museveni in his capacity as chair of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR).

It is an important step forward to stop a further deterioration of the crisis and to start working on sustainable solutions.

The High Representative encourages all stakeholders to work in good faith in order to rapidly implement the agreement, starting with the immediate halt of the M23 offensive and its pull-out of Goma.

She calls on all parties to grant unhindered humanitarian access to those in need immediately. The EU, in close coordination with the United Nations and other international partners, is ready to support the region in its efforts with a view to contributing to a sustainable solution for the crisis."

P R E S S

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