



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



Meeting of the Justice And Home Affairs Council on 27 and 28 November 2008

COUNCIL DECLARATION ON THE ATTACKS IN MUMBAI

Brussels, 27 November 2008

At the meeting of the Justice and Home Affairs Council in Brussels on 27 November 2008, the EU Home Affairs Ministers reviewed the situation in Mumbai following the wave of terrorist attacks on 26 November.

The Ministers strongly condemned the attacks, offered their condolences to the families and relatives of the victims and their sympathy to those injured, and expressed their solidarity, in these tragic circumstances, with the Indian authorities and the authorities of Maharashtra.

They were briefed on the latest developments, on the basis of a report from the competent Council and Commission services, and examined the situation of EU citizens present in Mumbai, who are among the victims. At this stage, it is not possible to establish the number of victims accurately. The Ministers welcomed the fact that members of the European Parliament delegation in Mumbai were unharmed.

The Ministers also discussed the measures put in place by Member States to provide assistance to all the victims and, in particular, to the European citizens affected. European coordination measures were immediately launched, in Brussels, in Mumbai and at the initiative of the Presidency, in order to give effect to European solidarity. Medical care, consular support and assistance with evacuation is being channelled to Mumbai. In this context, the Council stresses that EU citizens from countries without consular representation in Mumbai may use the consular services of any other EU Member State.

P R E S S

These tragic events underline the persistence of the terrorist threat. The Council continues to call for determined and coordinated action by the European Union in order to prevent and combat such acts. Cooperation with all the Union's external partners must also be reinforced.
