

**Statement by Mr. Ramtane LAMAMRA,  
Minister of Foreign Affairs and the National Community Abroad  
following the annulment of the agricultural and fishing agreements  
concluded between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco.**

The European Union Court has just annulled the agriculture and fishing agreements concluded between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco, taking as basis the principle of self-determination and on the requirement relating to the consent of the People of Western Sahara through the free expression of its unique and legitimate representative, the Polisario Front.

This is a resounding victory for the legitimate cause of the Saharawi People. First of all, through the recognition of the representativeness of the Polisario Front by the highest judicial body of the European Union, which confers on it the capacity to act before the Union's Courts. Then, through the annulment of the two agreements concluded in violation of the obligation relating to the needed free and authentic consent of the Saharawi People which derives directly from the separate and distinct status of the territory of Western Sahara as a non-autonomous territory eligible for self-determination in accordance with International Law.

This major double breakthrough enshrined in the European case law constitutes a historic achievement which will henceforth be binding on all the member countries of the European Union and its institutions in their relations with Morocco, as an occupying State. This sentence also opens a new phase in the struggle of the People of Western Sahara for the exercise of their inalienable, imprescriptible and non-negotiable right to self-determination, in the sense that it constitutes an essential landmark for International Organizations involved in the search for a solution to the conflict in Western Sahara which guarantees the right of the Saharawi people to self-determination. In line with the status of Western Sahara, represented by the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic, as the founding State of the African Union, this new legal recognition of its international personality has the clarifying effect of reducing to nothing the expansionist claims of the Kingdom of Morocco. At the same time, this verdict of European justice indicates to the Security Council of the United Nations the path that the completion of the decolonization of Western Sahara should take. In the face of an illegal occupation of Saharawi territories and an unbridled exploitation of natural resources over which the People of Western Sahara are the exclusive holders of permanent sovereignty, the Security Council is more than ever called upon to commit its authority in the promotion and protection of the national rights of the People of Western Sahara.