## JOSEP BORRELL FONTELLES



VICE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 21/04/2023 4/2023)4554803

To all Representatives to the PSC

Dear Ambassadors,

In my letter of 28 July 2022, I proposed the establishment of an EU Special Representative for the Gulf and invited Member States to propose candidates for this new role. I am very grateful for the positive response to this request and appreciate the quality of all candidates put forward by several Member States.

Following very careful deliberation, I consider that the best-suited candidate is Mr Luigi Di Maio.

As former Foreign Minister of Italy, Mr Di Maio has the necessary political profile at the international level for this role. His broad contacts with Gulf countries will allow him to engage with the relevant actors at the appropriate level. I therefore propose to appoint him as EU Special Representative for the Gulf, for an initial period of 21 months, starting on 1 June 2023 until 28 February 2025.

We have to maintain the momentum of our enhanced engagement with the Gulf. I therefore count on your support to Mr Di Maio in implementing our strategic partnership with Gulf partners.

Yours faithfully,

Josep Borrell Fontelles