

## **EUROPEAN UNION**

## **DELEGATION TO LIBYA**

Managing mixed migration flows in Libya through expanding protection space and supporting local socio-economic development

Minutes from 2<sup>nd</sup> Steering Committee on 7 December 2018.

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introduced the meeting mentioning it was the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Steering Committee meeting since the beginning of the implementation of the programme "Managing mixed migration flows in Libya" for a total value of EUR 90 million. It has been reminded to the participants that the programme is implemented through the support of five partners: GIZ, IOM, UNDP, UNHCR and UNICEF. DRC consortium has been also associated to the Steering Committee in consideration of the nature of its activities. The 1 <sup>st</sup> Steering Committee meeting took place on 18 October 2017 in Tunis. It adopted the Terms of Reference for the governing bodies of the Programme, including for the SC, reviewed progress since launch of the programme, discussed and agreed on coordination, visibility, and communication and monitoring and evaluation.  Libyan MoF was invited but could not attend due to a sudden closure of the Mitiga Tripoli airport.
This 2 <sup>nd</sup> SC meeting has been organized on a much higher political level, the Deputy Minister of Interior , together with representatives of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Planning and Ministry of Local Governance (please refer to the list of participants) of Libya were presented. Furthermore, the objectives of the meeting have been highlighted :  1) to review progress of the implementation; 2) to discuss conflict sensitivity support provided to the partners by the IcSP financed project with Peaceful Change Initiative 3) to discuss with Libyan counterparts the challenges for migration management in Libya and in particular for the response of the Program to these challenges
Finally remarked that the EU wanted to highlight that support to sick people is still poor and inadequate in the detention centres (DCs), registration at the disembarkation should be improved and that the work of international organisations/NGOs should be further facilitated in Libya.
For the Libyan authorities:  H.E. Deputy Minister of Interior for Illegal Migration of Libya expressed the following points:  1) UNHCR. Libya is not a member of the 1951 convention and does not recognize the UNHCR definition of refugees. Important to be careful on how to use the Gathering and Departure Facility (GDF) and abide by the 90 day limit for Persons of Concerns (PoCs) to stay at the GDF.  2) The South. The Government of National Accord (GNA) needs support to secure the southern border and boost patrols in the desert in order to gain control of the influx of migrants into Libya. DMol Shibani introduced the request of the increased support for the control of the southern borders.  Mr. Louai Turjman, from the MFA, mentioned the MoU signed with Italy in 2017 to control the control of the southern borders.
control the sea border as a model to address the issues at the southern border highlighting the importance of cooperation.

3) More coordination is needed. In particular underlined the need to utilize the Migration Working Group (MWG) and emphasized that all communication should take place through this group and future project should be designed on the basis of discussions held under the MWG. Ministry of Planning, requested regional dialogues with the EU and with other north African countries. He added the importance of the coordination among national/central authorities and local municipalities in Libya. Finally, Ms Elsabaa requested regular meetings with the EU Delegation. After the intervention of Libyan authorities, Peaceful Change Initiative gave an overview of the support to the EU TF to Conflict sensitivity. Presentations by the partners on implementation progress, results achieved and work plans for 2019 (power points presentations are attached) followed. IOM IOM has been focusing its intervention foremost on saving migrant lives while, in parallel, working to stabilize the country through continued collaboration and support from the Libyan government. IOM ensures a cohesive and integrated approach to protection and sustainable assistance to vulnerable and stranded migrants through a multifaceted-approach that encompasses Labour Migration Management, Health, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, Protection and Voluntary Humanitarian Return Assistance, as well as Community Stabilization. Next steps: To reinforce protection To reinforce the migration management, Labour migration management To reinforce the community stabilization most of all in the South , UNHCR mission to Libya; UNHCR informed that57,702 refugees and asylum seekers were registered with UNHCR as of December 2018. In 2018, UNHCR provided over 31,000 medical consultations in Libya and evacuated over 2,000 persons of concern out of Libya. In addition, 57,000 Internally Displaced Persons and returnees received assistance. The GDF, rehabilitated already in July 2018, has been finally opened in December 2018. , UNDP, thanked the EU and the Ministry of Local governance, Ministry planning and presented the main results achieved by the project. UNDP under the 'Strengthen Local Capacities for Resilience and Recovery' project in Libya has rehabilitated 11 public facilities, is working on 11 more, and has delivered 17 sets of equipment for the Municipalities of Benghazi, Al Kufra, Murzug, Sebha and Sabratha, where 1.7 million people are already able to benefit from the project's activities.

- UNICEF , unicipalities plus greater Tripoli.

UNICEF is working to provide appropriate and safe learning environment for children and improving the quality of child protection services through the provision of psychosocial support and referrals to specialized services in the targeted municipalities.

Additionally, UNICEF is supporting water, sanitation and hygiene programmes as well as procuring and distributing nutrition supplies to prevent nutrition-associated morbidity and mortality.
GIZ Libya, presented the 16 municipalities which are covered by the project. GIZ reported that the Ministry of Local Governance is being strengthened to facilitate an inclusive process in developing the decentralization strategy. To date, an agreement has been made to devolve five key functions to municipalities. Furthermore, regulations to activate the local government law 59/2012 have been issued by the Ministry. At the municipality level, 10 women development and training centers are in the process of being established, rehabilitated, and equipped. Institutional models to manage/operate the centers have been prepared. Main challenges foreseen are cash crisis and access to the South
DRC, presented the activities which have been mainly concentrated in Tripoli and Misrata. In 2017 support to DCs has been the main focus. The main topics supported have been mental Health and psychological/ social support. In 2018 strategic capacity building for local authorities has been the focus of the action. CESVI is working mainly in Misrata.
The last presentation focused on "New Migration Streams" – introduced by Global Initiative against transnational Organised Crime – research financed under EU Trust Fund.
Overall the Libyan authorithies were requesting increased information and consultation regarding the EUTF projects. Mr. Abraheem from the MoLG requested a stronger linkage between the local and central levels and the inclusion of more national actors in the activities supporting local municipalities. Moreover, the implementing partners were strongly encouraged to coordinate directly with the MFA and to use the MFA training facilities in the implementation.
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the Libyans to make effort to improve the coordination and inclusion of Libyan authorities. He also recalled that the EU was willing to increase its support in the South but relies on Libyan counterparts to facilitate access and will remain subject to security improvement.

The Italian Embassy highlighted the success of the Italian Strategy for Libya expressed full commitment to secure the Southern borders as well.

The  $2^{\rm nd}$  SC has been closed by the EU Ambassador to convene the next meeting of the Steering Committee in 6 months.